

The Middlebury Campus

Vol. 108, No. 13

Thursday, January 21, 2010

Since 1905



Elizabeth Scarinci, Local News Editor

Though the SGA approved funding for MiddView, the outdoor orientation program will not occur this fall.

Midd raises over \$3,500 for Haiti

By Jaime Fuller
NEWS EDITOR

In the past week, a small group of Middlebury students has raised approximately \$4,900 in donations for Haiti following the earthquake that left the country devastated on Jan. 12. The earthquake, with an estimated magnitude of 7.0, was the largest to strike the region in more than 200 years, and government officials fear the death toll may reach 200,000, according to *BBC News*.

Middlebury's successful fundraising campaign began when Mori Rothman '11 and Jacob Udell '12 saw an e-mail sent to the Middlebury Climate Campaign mailing list from Associate Professor of Economics Jon Isham. The e-mail urged interested

parties to donate to Partners in Health (PIH), a global health organization founded by Paul Farmer, who spoke in Mead Chapel last spring.

"That e-mail centered my mass of confused feelings, channeled it in a way," said Rothman.

Rothman and Udell e-mailed their friends on Jan. 13 and began tabling for donations to PIH in Proctor and Ross Dining Halls the following day. They were amazed at how much money they collected in that one day.

"I literally decided to send out one e-mail to a few friends," said Udell, "and the next thing I knew, we had fundraising schedules through Monday. It's also been amazing to see the willingness to give of the college community — all you have to say is

'Haiti relief,' and most students we encountered were immediately generous."

"It was unbelievable," said Rhiya Trivedi '12.5, who has also played a large role in the fundraising. "In the lunch rush at Proctor at 12:30, we just could not keep up. Money was exchanging hands everywhere and twenties were being dropped in and we were trying to not have our eyes pop out of our head."

The generosity was not lim-

SEE DINING, PAGE 5

Administration delays MiddView indefinitely

By Jedidiah Kiang
STAFF WRITER

The Office of the President has decided not to revive the defunct MiddView outdoor orientation program for first-year students in 2011, overruling a months-long student initiative and a Student Government Association (SGA) pledge to reinstate the activity.

The estimated cost of the program did not include wages paid to staff and the cost of opening buildings early, said Derek Doucet, director of Middlebury Outdoor Programs (MOP).

"The program costs [calculated by the SGA] cover the food of everyone, but do not include the staff hours and salary," he said, emphasizing that no cost estimates for programs on campus include these costs.

President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz cited the strain on both staff and facilities as the principle reasons for the decision.

"It became clear that the schedule for reinstituting MiddView — opening the residence halls earlier and having to provide daily services — would have a significant impact on College resources, especially the staff," he said.

Dean of the College Tim Spears stressed that Facilities Services has lost 12-14 percent of its staff. Asking members of the depleted crews to come in early would create additional non-financial costs.

"We've always been operating on a really tight schedule," he said. "The staffing reductions have put further pressure on that schedule. The staff at this college have done amazing things to make this college function as well as it does, but their time and energy are not unlimited."

Students behind the push to bring back MiddView were highly disappointed by the administration's decision. Former President of the Middlebury Mountain Club (MMC) Ben Meader '10.5 recognized the difficulties of staffing the program, but described it as an excuse for the decision.

"I would be interested in what the staff themselves think about opening the campus a bit early," he said. "I am not convinced that this is the reason that the SGA's bill has been tabled. We've seen repeatedly that there is something about this program that

SEE STAFFING, PAGE 5

Gas leak ends Cabrera concert

By Kara Shurmantine
NEWS EDITOR

A propane gas leak prematurely shut down the Ryan Cabrera concert that took place Saturday night in McCullough Social Space. The Middlebury Fire Department responded and the problem was resolved, but the concert did not resume.

Around 250 students, about half of the Social Space's capacity, attended the concert, which was co-sponsored by the Middlebury College Activities Board (MCAB) and Wonnacott Commons.

Though Cabrera was able to perform the majority of his set list, he was unable to play his biggest hit, "On the Way Down," and was transitioning into another well-

known song, "True," as the fire alarm went off.

"All of a sudden, the sound system popped and all the lights went out," said Teresa Wolverton '12, who attended the concert. "There was a fire alarm with flashing lights. Everyone had to evacuate."

"People were incredulous and became a bit rowdy," said John Montroy '12, another concert-goer. "Everyone was also slow to get outside, probably because they couldn't believe the concert was getting cut off mid-song."

At this point, according to Wonnacott Commons co-chair Annie Bogert '12, Audrina Patridge, star of the reality television series "The Hills," who is currently

dating Cabrera and sat in the front row of Saturday's show, began to be "mobbed" by male fans in the audience.

"We had to push them away and get [Cabrera and Patridge] into the Service Building," Bogert said, referring to herself and her fellow co-chairs, Ray Queliz '11 and Armaan Sarkar '12. Bogert, Queliz and Sarkar remained in the Service Building with Cabrera and Patridge as the fire department responded to the gas leak, which took about an hour. After the issue was resolved, Cabrera asked if he should go on with the show.

"I said it wasn't worth it," Bogert explained. "I felt bad, but I

SEE PROPANE, PAGE 4



File Photo

The College will continue to operate 51 Main as it gets closer to profitability.

51 Main to remain open for business

By Anthony Adragna
NEWS EDITOR

President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz announced that 51 Main at the Bridge will continue to operate in post on his blog and could become profitable as soon as this summer.

Since its debut three years ago, the venue has continued to progress toward profitability. In spite of the projected \$70,000 deficit this year, Liebowitz cited its ability to turn a profit soon, along with supportive comments from members of the community in response to another blog post, as some of the main reasons he opted to keep 51 Main open.

Liebowitz emphasized that 51 Main eliminated over 75 percent of its monthly deficits over the last year and could turn a profit shortly.

"If the venue continues to attract patrons I would not be surprised to see it operating in the black by the end of the summer," he said.

General manager Carl Roesch said the fact that 51 Main had already eliminated so much of its deficit during the economic crisis suggests it can achieve long-term prosperity.

"To be close to profitability in this economic climate in less than three years means we are on the right track," he said.

Samantha Peaslee '10, who worked at 51 Main previously, said the venue's goals do not immediately suggest profitability.

"Most students would rather buy alcohol at Hannaford's and then go to 51 Main than buy drinks there,"

SEE DONOR, PAGE 4



Nicolas Sohl, Photo Editor

STRETCHING OUT THAT J-TERM STRESS

Kate Strangfeld '12 stretches into the downward dog position during her yoga workshop. Students participate in dozens of similar programs during Winter Term, ranging from wine tasting to tap dance to tai chi.

this week



Meet Oliver

Everything you ever wanted to know about the camel on Route 7, page 7.



Ski survey

All the best places to hit the powder this Winter Term, page 12-13.

All that jazz

A 'wild' musical brings 1920s New York to town this weekend, page 17.





overseas briefing

by Hannah Wilson '11

BAMAKO — As driven Middlebury students, we spend a significant portion of our time thinking about the future. What are we going to write that paper on? Are you going to get that stellar internship next summer? And, of course, the ever looming question — what are you going to do after graduation? Imagine if all those thoughts just disappeared, vanished and no longer kept you up at night. Difficult to fathom, right?

You have now imagined yourself in Mali, West Africa (or for that matter, any number of African nations), a country where living in the moment is more important than anything in the future. Sounds ideal, right?

Well, individually and at that moment, yes; however, it can have major consequences when it comes to economic development and stability in the long term. In its essence, development changes the present in order to better the future or the unknown. For many Malians, the idea of sacrificing what little they have today for something that they might have in the future sounds ridiculous. It becomes increasingly problematic when you think about money. Yes, it is true that they have less money in general, but that does not make up for the fact that many Malians, especially youths in Bamako, the capital, "*mangent beaucoup d'argent*" (spend — translated literally, "eat" — a lot of money) on unnecessary things like Western clothes, "bling" and weaves. I may be making judgments about the social necessity of these items, but when they come at the cost of healthcare and food security, there should be no contest.

Healthcare is most affected by the lack of capital. In Mali, where no real form of health insurance exists, the sick and injured pay for their treatment before receiving it. Even the 300 cfa (\$0.60) cost to see a doctor at the public clinic is too much for many families, and that doesn't include whatever medicine is needed and other procedures that might need to be performed. Without saving, many people avoid care during the initial stages and end up waiting until their care is much more expensive to be treated.

This lack of forethought can also be seen at the end of the harvest season. The director of the United States Agency for International Development told our program that Mali is a country that can feed itself and potentially other countries in the area; however, it imports a lot of food from other countries. While the fertile land is self-sustaining, most farmers end up buying millet or imported Chinese rice at inflated prices later in the season because they sold most of their crops at the harvest.

Changing this mentality means changing the uncertainty of the future: an impossibility. The only way to teach is through example, not through a foreigner preaching about the benefits of saving for the future. Like most change, it can only come from inside and as frustrating as that is, the best we can do is to encourage people to take a chance and save for the future. Cultural change is not easy, nor is it necessarily the answer. However, when it comes to protecting future generations, I'd say it's necessary.

Judicial board aims to protect community

By Kara Shurmantine
News Editor

Every Thursday at 3 p.m., time is set aside for a Community Judicial Board (CJB) hearing. On some weeks, no trial is scheduled; on others, the board may hear a case for a couple of hours; and on other weeks, members of the board may sit to hear the case of an accused student until past midnight or even for more than a day.

"It's draining," said Assistant Director of Alumni and Parent Programs Susan Levine, a staff representative on the CJB. "It can be very hard."

Middlebury is unique among peer institutions in possessing such a judicial body. The CJB is comprised of one staff, two faculty, and four student members, along with a staff co-chair, Matthew Pacholec, a student co-chair, Andrew Ruoss '10, and alternate members, who serve when a conflict of interest exists between a board member and an accused student or respondent. The board reviews cases in which a student stands accused of violating a

we keep the community safe."

The judicial board is "specifically designed to protect the community," said Ruoss. "It's the community's way of protecting itself and ensuring the safety of its members."

There are two ways a student can be accused of a policy violation: by an individual accuser or by the College. The process by which the College brings charges against a student is somewhat complicated. Public Safety documents the majority of potential cases using incident reports; each week, the commons deans meet with the Judicial Affairs Officer — Derek Doucet, acting for Karen Guttentag, who is on leave — to go through the reports and determine which cases are egregious enough to go to trial and which may be resolved via individual deans' discretion. Students may petition for disposition without a hearing, and in some cases, the Judicial Affairs Officer may offer a student a specific sanction. If the student accepts, the case is resolved; if he declines, a hearing is scheduled.

"This may sound surprising, but I find that working with students who are responding to charges has been some of my most meaningful and rewarding work as a dean," wrote Guttentag in an e-mail. "I'm often in the position of helping students to understand the impact of their choices ... and learning that they are still important, valuable people with something more to contribute to Middlebury."

Members of the board receive no information about the case prior to the hearing. Upon entering the room, each member receives a packet of information relevant to the trial, prepared in advance by the Judicial Affairs Officer. The respondent has the opportunity to make an opening statement, at which point any discrepancies between the respondent's statement and the Public Safety incident report are addressed. Witnesses are called and questioned. The respondent has the right to question witnesses and to call a character witness; he also has the right to an adviser, who may be a student, professor or dean. As the hearing concludes, the respondent may make a closing statement and then submit his cell phone number to the Judicial Affairs Officer, at which point he is dismissed and the board withdraws to deliberate.

The board first deliberates guilt. Unlike typical courts of law, in the CJB guilt is

determined by a preponderance of evidence — that is, more likely than not to be guilty, or 51 percent. If more than one board member finds the respondent not guilty, all record of the hearing is destroyed.

The board next deliberates over sanctions, or what punishment the respondent will receive. At this point, the board reviews the respondent's cumulative disciplinary record, which will help determine the sanction received: a student with a clean disciplinary record will be punished more lightly than one with previous infractions. Sanctions can range from a letter of reprimand to expulsion. Students have the automatic right to appeal to President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz, who can overturn a board decision.

"The judicial board is a fully autonomous body," said Ruoss. "The administration does not dictate to the board what it should find ... A common misconception of the board is that it's kind of this 'Star Chamber'-like, prosecutorial body, and it's not that at all."

"The student members of the board are not the 'golden children,' so to speak," he continued. "There's no expectation of superhuman perfection. Everyone's a member of the community. Everyone's a college student. There's a certain understanding of the realities of college life. We come to it as college students."

"It's a very difficult thing for students to do, to judge their peers," said Levine. "I think it's a wonderful experience for them ... It's great to see the students evolve."

Ruoss has been involved with the CJB for three years, and like other members of the board, he joined because he believed in its premise: members of the community working together to protect the community as a whole.

"This is a group of people who have dedicated a significant amount to preserving the safety of all members of the community," he said.

Beyond the time dedication necessary to be a board member, however, the task of balancing the needs of a large and diverse community can be personally taxing.

"It's both extremely challenging and extremely rewarding," said Guttentag. "Because the consequences for students who are charged with policy violations can be so serious, this work requires a great deal of attention to detail ... at the same time, you need to be able to see the big picture and the broader themes of a situation to make sure you're responding appropriately."

"One of the most frustrating aspects of many of our cases is the fact that so many of the students who are found guilty of policy violations often share with us stories of the tremendous personal stress that contributed to their actions," she continued. "While this context certainly helps the board to understand why certain actions occurred, and even to sympathize, it does not tend to excuse them."

Serving on the CJB for an extended period of time, as many board members have, affords an opportunity to notice trends in student behavior. Many CJB board members noted that within the past couple of semesters they have perceived a certain increase in violent cases — students behaving in verbally or physically violent ways toward other students or toward Public Safety officers.

"I feel like I'm seeing a little bit less respect that the students have for security," said Levine.

"Interestingly, while the circumstances of cases have not changed — same situations, components, etc. — we still see this distinct trend in behavior," said Ruoss.

Guttentag emphasized the severity of this issue. "It's important for students to understand how very, very seriously we take this issue," she said. "When students fail to respect the authority of the Public Safety staff, they may be very directly compromising the safety of others, and the board tends to have very little tolerance for this."

There's no expectation of superhuman perfection. We come to it as college students.

— Andrew Ruoss

Middlebury College Handbook policy and in which disciplinary probation, suspension or expulsion are possible outcomes. CJB cases include, but are not limited to, alleged vandalism of College property, violence against another individual, disrespect of College officials and sexual assault.

The CJB structure, as part of the Honor Code, was first voted into existence by students in 1965 and reaffirmed last year in another campus-wide vote.

"That's the source of our authority," said Ruoss. "We are supposed to represent the community's interest. You have to remember that the accused person sitting in front of you is a member of the community, too."

This aspect of the judicial process makes the College's system unique is that a body representing the community resolves policy violations affecting the community. The CJB is not a court of law. Its jurisdiction is over each student's membership in the private community of the College and his or her corresponding accountability to College handbook policy.

"We're trying to do what's best for the community," said Levine, who, having served for over seven years is the current board's longest-serving member. "I think

Middbrief by Vedika Khanna, Staff Writer

Ross Commons Coordinator Sue Harris retires after 10 years

This Friday marks Sue Harris's last day as Commons Coordinator for Ross Commons. She is retiring after 10 years at the College.

After leaving, she plans on moving to New Hampshire with her husband and working part-time elsewhere. Tania Cantin, from the Dean of Students office, will be taking over for her.

Harris has been here since the start of the commons system at Middlebury. In that time, she has affected many generations of students.

"I think this is the best job on campus," said Harris. "I've made so many lasting friendships and I'm really going to miss the students and personnel I've met here. The experience has been wonderful."

Students have been dropping by to see Harris and have been making her cards she

can take with her once she leaves.

For students, Harris has been the person to talk to about how to get an add card signed or sorting out a bad day. Students can often be found chatting with her in her office at any hour.

"It has been a complete joy and privilege to work with Sue," said Robyn Whyte, the Ross Commons residential advisor. "Regardless of the day, good or bad, once I hear Sue say, 'hello, honey!' everything is fixed. She is a bright spot in anyone's day."

Laurel Gray '10 was equally enthusiastic about Harris's positive influence on her experience with Ross Commons.

"She is a wonderful woman who did a great job for the commons," she said. "She was a really great asset to this school and she really brought the commons together."

New College Web site debuts in February

By Kathryn DeSutter

STAFF WRITER

Library and Information Services (LIS) plans to launch the new College Web site in February. The new site will feature a redesigned home page that focuses on displaying the diversity of the College, while retaining the traditional links to admissions, academics and other popular portals.

Although there is no definite launch date, LIS, which began the project in the fall of 2008, is currently reviewing "certain technical aspects that need to be completed" and "aiming for an early February launch," according to Dean of Library and Information Services Mike Roy.

The project is formally titled the "Middlebury Web Makeover." Jason Pontius, lead designer at White Whale, the Oakland, Calif.-based design firm hired for the project, explained in July that the title emphasizes the dramatic nature of the redesign.

"It's like 'Extreme Makeover: Home Edition,' where they tear down walls," said Pontius.

According to Roy, the redesign of the site has multiple goals.

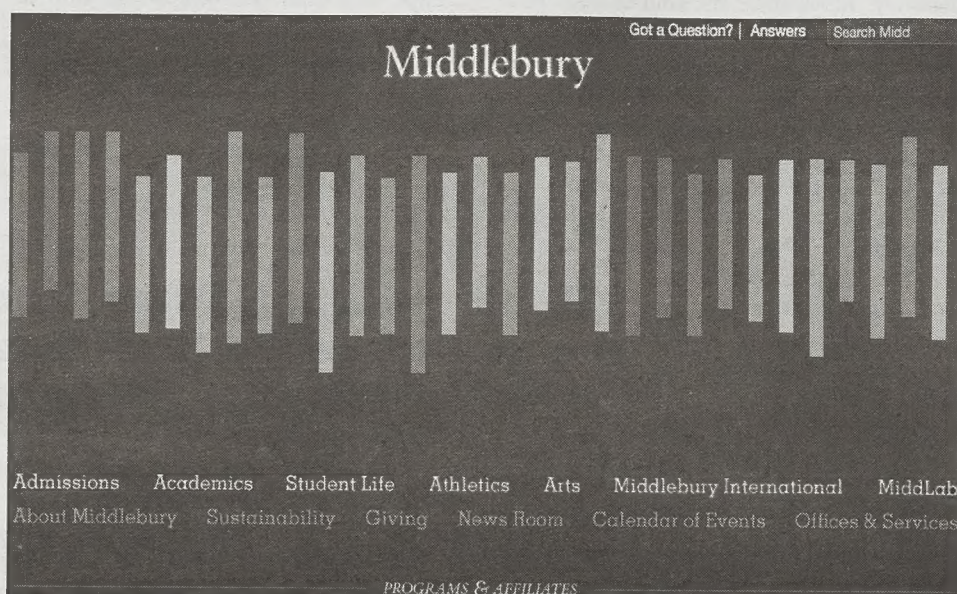
"[We aim] to improve the ability for the Middlebury community to find the information they need on the site; to allow for the increased use of media — audio, video, animation — on the site; to make it easier to keep the information on the Web up-to-date; [and] to reflect the dynamic nature of the Middlebury community to the outside world," wrote Roy in an e-mail.

Roy emphasized the positive impact he hopes the new site will have on the College community.

"We think the Middlebury community will benefit by being able to rely on the web to stay informed, to get their work done and to learn about the myriad opportunities for learning and growth at Middlebury," said Roy.

Member of the Coordinating Committee Ryan Kellett '09.5 said the Web site would continue to evolve even after the launch.

"The new site doesn't just halt progress the day it launches," he said. "It's an on-



A screen capture of the new Middlebury Web site, which should go live in early February.

going process to make the Web site better. Middlebury is doing this project on an accelerated timeline that takes other schools several years to complete. So, I encourage the community to engage with the new site and then tell us how to make it even better."

Although the site strives to increase the ease and practicality of use for those directly involved within the College, Web designers had to consider a wide range of potential users in order to create a design that satisfies all parties. Designers worked to develop useful features for students, faculty and staff while simultaneously creating a marketing tool for prospective students and others looking to learn more about the College.

The designers worked to provide plenty of opportunities for feedback on ideas. Although the College hired White Whale, which specializes in college and university Web design, to conduct the project, those at Middlebury presented ideas through online surveys, focus groups, information sessions and direct contact with departments to determine their specific needs. The Web Makeover blog at (<http://blogs.middlebury.edu/webredo>) also features a comments section where anyone can pro-

vide input on the design.

The new homepage has replaced the traditional photographs of students and Vermont landscapes with a series of colorful, vertical bars that resemble the equalizer display on a stereo. Each bar features a story, event, or some type of highlight. Running the cursor over a bar reveals a brief headline, and clicking on the bar displays the full story, which is presented with text, a photograph or even a video.

The design of the site itself also reflects the desire for input. One of the most prominent bars on the equalizer displays invites users to submit stories. This feature stands out from the rest of the solid colored bars with just a white dotted outline, and clicking on it opens a pop-up window that invites the user to "share your story."

Design changes are visible in sub-sections of the site, such as the athletics, academics and arts pages, where bold, white headings overlay photographs that can be viewed by scrolling horizontally. The font size of the text has also been increased, making the new site more legible and the overall look appear more modern.

college shorts

By Anthony Adragna, News Editor

Pressure to work linked to dropout rates

A recent study found that students who drop out of college do so because they feel pressure to work.

The survey, conducted by Public Agenda, a nonpartisan, nonprofit research firm with support from the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation, determined that 71 percent of students who leave school do so at least partially because of work. Of those, half cited pressure to work as a major reason for dropping out.

Thirty-five percent of the dropouts attempted to balance work and school, but left their studies because they found the combination of the two too stressful. The survey interviewed 614 adults, aged 22 to 30 with at least some postsecondary education.

Results from the survey support the national trend in thinking, which suggests that part-time students, who account for 40 percent of undergraduates nationally, fare worse than their full-time counterparts.

— The Chronicle of Higher Education

Animal rights groups protest pig burials

Constant protests from animal rights activists forced Austrian and Italian scientists to cancel a controversial experiment that involved burying pigs alive in snow to monitor their deaths.

The study, conducted by Institute of Mountain Emergency Medicine in Bolzano, Italy, and the Medical University of Innsbruck, Austria, attempted to determine what factors would increase the odds of survival in an avalanche.

Following the administration of an anesthetic and a sedative, the pigs would be buried in the snow and the scientists would monitor deaths. A total of 29 pigs had already participated in tests.

Animal rights activists claimed the experiments served no useful purpose for humans and forced the pigs to suffer horrible deaths.

"It is absolutely unacceptable that these highly sensitive, helpless animals are killed for such an unnecessary test," said Johanna Stadler, head of the group Four Paws.

— Associated Press

NYU mourns professor's sudden death

Popular New York University (NYU) computer scientist Sam Roweis jumped to his death from a 16th-floor balcony, Jan. 13.

Roweis worked in NYU's Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences. His wife had recently given birth to premature twins and an argument about caring for them preceded his death.

Roweis earned an undergraduate degree from the University of Toronto and earned his doctorate from the California Institute of Technology in 1999. He did postdoctoral work at the Gatsby Unit in London. He was at the University of Toronto from 2001 to 2009, and arrived at NYU in October.

On his Web site, he described his interests as machine learning, data mining and statistical signal processing.

Roweis garnered several accolades, including the University of Ottawa's Premier's Research Excellence Award.

"It's a matter of great sorrow to us to lose one of our faculty members so abruptly," said university spokesman John Beckman. "Our hearts go out to his family."

— New York Post

Lack of leaders leaves 2010 'Hunt'-less

By Anthony Adragna

NEWS EDITOR

Suffering from a lack of logistical support, the popular Winter Term scavenger challenge known as The Hunt will not occur this year.

The event invited students to form teams, complete a series of tasks and submit answers, with prizes for the most successful teams. Last year, teams were limited to 10 students. Organizers based the challenges on similar competitions at the University of Chicago and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

Students organizers ultimately did not get the student volunteers necessary to get the event off the ground.

"Many people expressed interest in providing logistical support and writing questions at the activities fair in the fall, but when it came to holding meetings and setting up communication there wasn't much collective response," Hunt organizer Will Silton '10

said. "Those of us trying to get the Hunt off the ground this year have been busy with other commitments all year; doing all of the leg work ourselves was out of the question."

Elizabeth Robinson, director of the Project on Innovation in the Liberal Arts, said a generous donor had and would continue to fund the event.

"We have had and will continue to have funds from an alumni donor for the prize money as well as some resources for publicity and marketing if needed," she said. "Last year the SGA supported The Hunt and the students who ran it were able to do a lot more with the event. Resources are not why the hunt is not happening this year."

Rather than putting additional pressure on students to organize or forming a campus club, Silton opted to remain true to the original intent of the competition.

"The point of the Hunt, anyway, is to get

students involved with something fun and creative outside the usual academic arena," he said. "It was meant to be a grassroots-level initiative, something fun and exciting, but also brief, that students pursue purely out of intellectual and artistic curiosity."

Silton said the event primarily attracted underclassmen who were looking for something creative and fun to do during Winter Term when they had enough time for those types of activities.

"Students have a little less work and a little more time," he said. "The Hunt was meant to dissuade students from playing video games in their room all day and having something fun to do on campus when they aren't skiing or partying."

While he remains hopeful that the competition will begin once again, Silton acknowledges it will likely require a creative-minded underclassman.

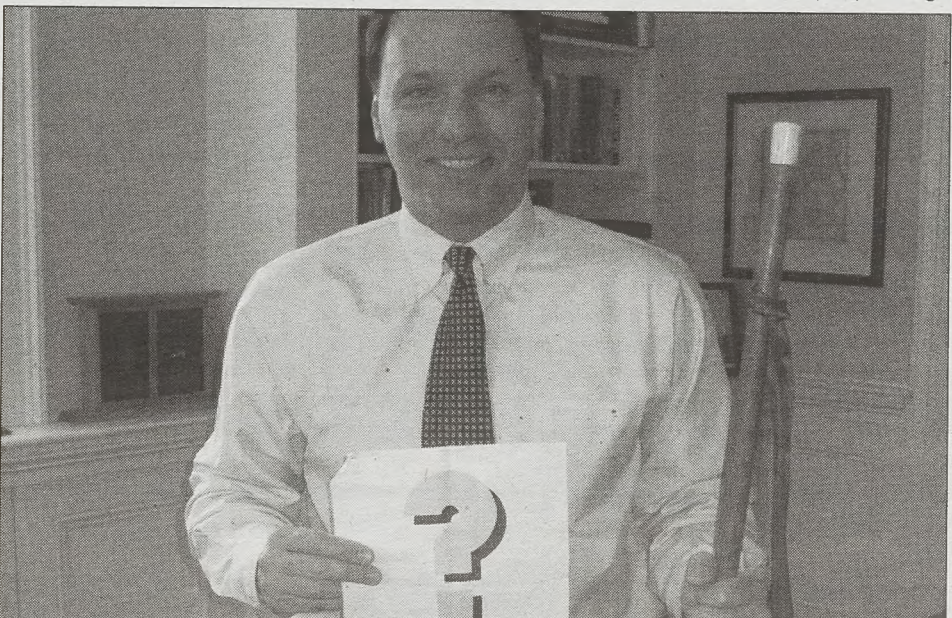
"I think for the Hunt to become more popular it's going to take some strong-willed, resourceful, inventive underclassmen to get the ball rolling again and spark interest amongst their classmates," he said.

Examples of previous questions include a challenge to participants asking them to fly a paper plane through the window under the clock at McCardell Bicentennial Hall and another asking them to build a soapbox car to race down Mead Chapel Hill.

Robinson hopes students will get involved and bring The Hunt back for next year and believes they will.

"I am really hoping that some students will step forward to run it next year," she said. "I would be happy to talk to anyone who is interested. It will be back next year. Students who are missing it will take the lead, I am sure."

Anyone interested in bringing back The Hunt should contact Robinson.



Anthony Adragna, News Editor

President Liebowitz poses for students to fulfill one of the tasks of last year's Hunt contest.

ENAM department eliminates senior Comps

By Amy Francisco
STAFF WRITER

In an effort to comply with a faculty vote two years ago to require a thesis, essay or other independent work of every senior at the College, the English and American Literatures (ENAM) department was forced to reexamine the ENAM Senior Comprehensive Exams Program, colloquially referred to by students as "Comps."

Comps, an intensive reading seminar for senior ENAM majors offered during Winter Term, features a heavy workload with a formidable reading list, several papers and an extended oral examination at the end. Comps provides an intensive survey of English and American literature, including many influential authors and spanning a variety of genres and eras.

Because Comps did not satisfy the new independent senior work requirement, the ENAM department was faced with the choice of either requiring both Comps and a senior essay or thesis or simply the thesis. Moreover, according to department chair and Reginald L. Cook Professor of American Literature Brett Millier, "many ENAM faculty had grown disillusioned with Comps" and as a result "the department voted overwhelmingly ... to get rid of Comps altogether."

As Associate Professor of English and American Literatures Timothy Billings described it, this dissatisfaction arose largely from a feeling within the department that the program offered a "fairly superficial survey of

literature" rather than "the kind of substantial experience we want our majors to have. One hour to discuss a Shakespeare play, followed by one hour to discuss a Dickens novel — it amounted to little more than a series of hoops to jump through quickly, one after another. We all loved doing it because it was kind of crazy fun, but we had to admit that it wasn't very thorough."

Furthermore, with Comps as a requirement for the major, the department needed four professors to teach it every Winter Term.

This meant that "four whole courses of the creative or experimental type that one can only offer during J-term were not being offered, which we thought was an impoverishment to our curriculum," said Billings.

The department opted to eliminate Comps altogether. Beginning with the Class of 2012, every ENAM major must write either a senior thesis or senior essay and will not have the option of taking a Comps class instead. However, as a way of easing the transition, members of the Classes of 2010 and 2011 still have the opportunity to take Comps as a substitute for, or in addition to, their independent senior work.

This year, the first in which the program is optional, Comps functions somewhat differently. Instead of requiring the class for approximately 60 majors, this year there is only one section. Within that class, five members are replacing their senior essays or theses with

Comps, and three are completing both requirements.

Avery Finch '09.5 and Eleanor Johnstone '10 both opted to take Comps in addition to completing senior essays this year.

"It's fun and interesting, and the classroom atmosphere is nice," said Finch. "With such a small group, it feels a lot like book club. We ... talk about these great works, people

my own when I could be in engaging discussions with well-informed peers and professors seemed foolish. We're undergraduates, and we always have a lot to learn from our instructors ... I frankly think that cutting Comps dilutes the quality of the ENAM major. Keeping it and making a semester's essay or a year's thesis a requirement would enhance it."

"I think it's too bad that they're trying to phase it out," said Finch. "I don't know how it was different in the past, if maybe it was less valuable or enjoyable for the students, but I'm finding it to be a great sort of way to put a cap on my English degree."

However, those classes without the opportunity to take Comps may not feel its loss as acutely as those with more exposure to the old ENAM program.

"Comps does provide the opportunity to read these amazing books, but they don't necessarily get the airtime they deserve," said Francie Alexandre '12, a sophomore English major and member of the first class that will never have a chance to take Comps. "If I have to read a lot in a very short period of time, I'm much less likely to take anything from it. Although being able to discuss great literature is what the ENAM major is all about, I still like the program as it is, and I can definitely see the value in doing individual work in addition to all the other discussion courses offered by the department. Overall, I don't think I've lost anything major in my ENAM experience."

I think cutting Comps dilutes the quality of the ENAM major.
— Eleanor Johnstone '10

bring in snacks and sometimes other professors from the department visit."

Both students agree that this optional Comps class, taught by Associate Professor of English and American Literatures Marion Wells, seems more laid-back than the stories they have heard from past classes, and that this relaxing of the curriculum is for the better.

While the faculty may feel disillusioned by Comps, students do not necessarily share this view.

"My biggest regret is simply that [Comps] will no longer be offered after this year," said Johnstone. "We write a lot at this college. There's a lot of emphasis put on the individual intellect and what students can bring to the table ... I'm taking Comps because I'm already writing a critical essay in the spring, and spending even more time in the library on

Donor to continue support of local social space

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

she said. "This isn't 51 Main's fault. We're students and that's just more affordable for us."

The anonymous donor who currently supports the project has pledged to continue doing so for up to an additional three years if necessary.

"The donor is very supportive of the project and is a great friend of the College," Liebowitz said. "He and his family have given most generously to the new library, the McCullough social space renovation, financial aid and faculty support. His gift in support of 51 Main came as a result of the Student Committee on Social Life, and the gift will cover all overruns for 51 Main for at least two, and maybe three, more years."

Roesch said the venue makes the business district of Middlebury more exciting.

"We contribute to a vibrant downtown Middlebury, which is good for all businesses," he said. "We fill a niche."

One of the major benefits to the space is that it expands the variety of social options available to students, Liebowitz said.

"51 Main and its programming have served to diversify social options in town and on our campus to go beyond suite parties, social house parties and large McCullough events — most, if not all, of which center on alcohol," he said.

Peaslee supported Liebowitz's decision to keep the venue open and agreed it augmented the social options for the community.

"It's become a crucial venue for performers

and events and offers a unique atmosphere," she said. "It appeals to people who want something off-campus, nearby, and not solely a bar."

The College received feedback and praise from many members of the community about the space. Liebowitz said he received direct e-mails from students, faculty, staff and townspeople about the future of the space in addition to the 90 responses to his blog post.

Not all members of the community support the decision to keep the venue open, however, as they have never supported the project.

"I do not support 51 Main and, like many faculty and staff members, will not step a foot in that venue," said Professor of Geography Tamar Mayer. "I wish students, too, would boycott the site."

While he made the final decision, Liebow-

itz said he considered the responses from all members of the community before deciding to continue operation of 51 Main.

"I of course consulted widely," he said. "I even re-read The Campus editorial on this subject."

Peaslee believes the community has recognized the value 51 Main adds to the community and hopes it will continue to support it.

"I hope everyone sees what we have and is willing to put a bit of extra effort into making sure we get to keep it," she said.

Liebowitz wrote that he would continue to push the venue to achieve its potential.

"We will continue to push for more financial accountability so the business can pay for itself without the support of a donor," he wrote in the blog post. "We will review the venue's status on a regular basis."

Propane leak forces early end to show

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

figured that the majority of the people had left."

By this time, it was about 11 or 11:20 p.m., and Cabrera, Patridge and Cabrera's manager headed to the Two Brothers Tavern in downtown Middlebury for a drink.

Bogert described Cabrera as an "interesting" person.

"He said to me later on that he liked the connection he had with the crowd," she said. "There were lots of jokes, lots of cursing ... 'rock star behavior,' so to speak."

"For what he was trying to be, he was good," said Montroy. "His songs were catchy and he can clearly play. He knows how to work a crowd and present himself."

"Ryan performed amazingly," Wolverton agreed. "People who did not attend truly missed out on an amazing experience."

Bogert agreed that though the concert was cut short, attendees were generally enjoying themselves.

"Nobody has a crystal ball and can look in the future and see what's going to happen," she said. "People were having a good time while they were in there. Maybe it was too short, but it wasn't a waste."

public safety log

January 14 - January 18, 2010

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
1/14/2010	10:15 p.m.	Drug violation paraphernalia	Confiscated/Fire safety violation smoking	Forest East	Referred to Commons Dean
1/14/2010	11:54 a.m.	Vandalism	Graffiti	Pearsons	Referred to Commons Dean
1/15/2010	5:25 p.m.	Disturbance	Noise	Gifford	Referred to Commons Dean
1/15/2010	12:22 a.m.	Disturbance	Noise	Hepburn	Referred to Commons Dean
1/15/2010	12:10 a.m.	Drug violation	Odor of marijuana; no drugs located	Battell Center	Referred to Commons Dean
1/15/2010	12:10 a.m.	Vandalism	Structure/Wall light	Kelly	Referred to Commons Dean
1/16/2010	11:22 p.m.	Theft from public space	One pair of pants	Athletic Complex	Referred to Commons Dean
1/16/2010	11:42 p.m.	Alcohol possession: non-student	Disrespect of College official/MPD	Brackett	Referred to Commons Dean
1/16/2010	12:30 a.m.	Alcohol possession: non-student	—	Other College location	Referred to Commons Dean
1/18/2010	2:21 a.m.	Vandalism	Plexiglass light cover	Gifford	Referred to Commons Dean
1/16/2010	12:30 a.m.	Vandalism	Flooded bathroom	Battell North	Referred to Commons Dean
1/17/2010	11:50 p.m.	Vandalism	Light cover	Hepburn	Referred to Commons Dean
1/17/2010	12:15 a.m.	Disturbance	Loud music	Atwater B	Referred to Dean of College
1/17/2010	2:22 a.m.	Vandalism	Broken window in door	Milliken	Referred to Commons Dean
1/17/2010	3:45 p.m.	Vandalism	Broken bottles	Atwater A	Referred to Commons Dean
1/17/2010	—	Theft from public space	College table: recovered	Stewart	Referred to Commons Dean
1/18/2010	6:37 a.m.	Vandalism	Graffiti	Twilight Hall	Referred to Dean of College

The Department of Public Safety reported giving 7 alcohol citations between January 14-18.

Dining hall collectors raise funds for Haiti

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ited to students — the fundraisers noted that \$20-dollar bills and other donations large and small were given by dining hall staff, faculty and other members of the College community.

"I think it's incredible," wrote Peggy Burns, associate director of the Alliance for Civic Engagement in an e-mail. "To have raised more than \$3,000 in just a few days really speaks to [students'] commitment to helping — and to students wanting to help."

Udell and Rothman were also quick to say that they owed Burns "a big thank you" for allowing them to fundraise as well as planning larger fundraisers on campus.

This group of students, while the first to commence fundraising on campus, was joined this week by other organizations and events trying to lend Haiti much-needed aid. Approximately \$1,600 in donations was collected at a Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration concert on Monday, the Pan Caribbean Student Organization has a panel planned for Jan. 26 and Distinguished Men of Color has a poker and pool tournament planned for Jan. 23, with funds raised being donated to the rescue effort. A meeting was held on Tuesday for the entire College community in McCullough to bring the campus together in an opportunity to reflect and inform about future fundraising opportunities.

The small group that has been fundraising since last Thursday credits their success to the organic nature in which the campaign formed, and the fact that they are fundraising simply as compassionate human beings, unaffiliated with

any organization. Also, their placement outside of dining halls make it possibly the easiest way for Middlebury students to give aid to Haiti.

"That's the brilliance of any successful, well-organized campaign," said Rothman. "The easier it is, the more people are going to do it ... the ease of it is that you see a box, lots of money, seemingly nice people, and you say 'yeah, sure, I can spare \$5.'"

The cheery demeanor of those stationed outside of the dining halls is also considered a crucial component of their fundraising strategy.

"This kind of campaign is not sustainable if you are wallowing in the misery that the issue itself deserves the entire time you are doing it," said Rothman. "Allowing myself to try to feel what I would be feeling if I were there, I don't think I could get out of bed. I couldn't move, I couldn't talk to anyone, let alone fundraise."

Relying on the tactics they have at their disposal as students with large networks of friends and a considerable quantity of tempered optimism has proved much more beneficial. They write 'Haiti' in purple ink on those students who want to give but have no wallets and attract passersby with improvised songs urging donations. They have also found that simply addressing someone by name almost ensures they will donate.

"Some of us are more aggressive than others," said Rothman. "Some people say, 'can you give, if not, that's OK.' Rhiya and I say, 'can you give? If not, give.'"

For these fundraisers, the stories they can share about the donors paints an even more poignant picture of the situation than the amount

of money they have raised. Nial Rele '12, a first-year counselor in Stewart Hall, said that his entire hall of first-years had donated to Haiti. Trivedi told of the people who volunteered to take a shift, people she had never met before. There were the numerous people who dropped \$100 bills in their cardboard box, those who ran back to their room to grab their wallets and one girl who felt compelled to add another \$20 to the box the three times she passed by.

"I wish we could give some people superhero capes," said Trivedi.

However, Rele said that not everyone has been sympathetic and willing to give to the cause.

"On one hand, it's comforting to see that so many people are willing to give and are interested in where the money is going," said Rele. "On the other hand there are, unfortunately, a whole bunch of people on this campus who won't even look at you. You try to make eye contact, you try to get their attention, try to get some form of compassion out of them. It has happened to all of us who are tabling, they just walk right by."

The worst, according to Rele, are the texters — "If you can text and drive, you can text and donate."

Despite the resistant few who pass the donation box, the fundraisers believe that the overall interest in Haiti on campus has resulted in a boon for the cause and the College community.

Isham, whose e-mail inspired the students to act, said he was "really impressed by what they have done, though not surprised. In my 11 years at Middlebury, I have seen time and time again how our students understand the gravity of 21st-century challenges, and then how they

boldly and creatively act in the face of such challenges. What has happened in Haiti is beyond understanding: we each must do as much as we can."

It makes you proud of our community," said Rothman. "Everyone says Middlebury is this community of un-activism, and this proves that it is not due to apathy — it's not because people don't care about the world."

"We might not be activists, but this has proved that we are at least active," said Trivedi. "And that might even be better because the danger of activism is that you get pigeonholed into your own issue and you don't care about anything else. Being broadly active, when you are in college, might be a greater contribution to the planet than caring about your own pet issue ... I would take active over activism for the community today."

Udell reiterated this sentiment, and also expressed hope that support for Haiti would be able to continue even when the media fervor ends.

"It's important for me to believe that Middlebury is not just an ivory tower, and so many people around here are truly moving beyond their individual concerns to focus on alleviating the suffering of others," wrote Udell in an e-mail. "My sense is that the Middlebury community has only begun fundraising and figuring out ways to continue to help, and I think all of us involved in tabling were just grateful to be a part of it. If we were able to raise this much money sitting in chairs in front of Proctor and Ross, I'm excited to see what the Middlebury community can do once we are equipped with more formal

Staffing shortages lead to MiddView cancellation

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the administration doesn't like. I think they can expect to hear from a mountain of disappointed alumni and students."

The SGA bill, passed by the Senate in December, offered to fund MiddView for three years with money drawn from the annual student activities' fee. The SGA bill also proposed to expand eligibility for the program to include all first-years. This year's SGA has been unusual in its willingness to spend.

MMC members were emboldened to see the Senate take action on their behalf, but said they were disappointed not to have received more than a superficial explanation for the administration's objections.

"We can hope that this will tease out the underlying issue," Meader said. "I am puzzled at how after petition, poll, interim program and

overwhelming student support, the administration remains sluggish."

Spears said the administration admired the student initiative and did not object to the program, but simply could not devote the resources needed at the present time. He pointed to the success of this year's orientation as proof that students could orient themselves to Middlebury through in a variety of programs.

"This isn't a criticism about the program," he said. "Now just isn't the moment to move forward. It doesn't mean if you take away MiddView you can't have an orientation experience that is excellent in some other way."

Although disappointed with the decision, Pier LaFarge '10.5, one of the student leaders in the push to restore MiddView, remained optimistic.

"We're disappointed, but we're confident that we'll have it back," he said.

Students themselves held a variety of opin-

ions about the program. Some praised it; others mourned its loss.

"I think it's an amazingly important experience," Jeannette Giammattei '10 said. "It gives you people to talk to on the first day of school and people to eat lunch with."

Others found that the experience did not add much to their social experiences at the College.

"It was a good time, but not necessary," Edwin Suh '12 said. "The socializing aspect of it was really nice, but once you're [back] in Middlebury and you just go around meeting people, the socializing you do overwhelms the socializing you do in MiddView."

Associate Dean of the College Katy Abbott said she understood the need to postpone the program for at least another year.

"While it is an enormous disappointment to me and many others to see MiddView waiting in the wings for at least another year, I am

sensitive to the impact that this program has on countless staff members," she said. "The SGA contribution, while magnanimous, did not take into account such costs as staff overtime hours to prepare student rooms two weeks in advance of new student arrival, provide food for leader training, facilities set-up for all the spaces needed, and more."

Spears stressed that the decision was not made lightly and that the financial costs were not the only factor considered.

"It takes a lot of institutional energy and dedication to mount these programs and so the money itself doesn't cover all the costs," he said. "We have a really dedicated staff. People like Derek [Doucet] and Katy [Abbott] and [Director of CCAL] Doug [Adams] would like nothing more [than] to bring MiddView back, but it takes more than that group of people to make it happen."

Additional reporting by Anthony Adragna.

Admissions negotiates record applications

By Adam Schaffer

STAFF WRITER

With the passage of the Jan. 1 application deadline, the Office of Admissions has begun its process of sifting through thousands of applications to make up the Class of 2014 and '14.5.

While the final application totals are still being counted, the number appears to be around 7,960, a 15 percent increase over last year. The College has seen a 50 percent increase in the number of applications since five years ago.

"[This increase] speaks volumes for Middlebury's appeal to some of the strongest students around the country and the world," Dean of Admissions Bob Clagett wrote in an e-mail.

The increase in applications has not merely been the result of more prospective students of the same quality applying, either.

"We have also seen a steady increase in the quality of our applicant pool," Clagett said, "based on the academic and other ratings that we use in the admissions office, their SAT/ACT scores, and the special talents and interests that they bring to the admissions process." Applicants are noting this increasing competitiveness as well.

With over 40 percent of the class accepted in the Early Decision (ED) round, leaving roughly 330 spots for the class of 2014 and 55

for '14.5, some Regular Decision (RD) and second round ED students are worried about their chances.

Prospective student Hugh Demers, who applied RD, feels the pressure of these numbers.

"I feel that [applying RD instead of ED] could [be] the difference between getting in and not getting in," he said.

Clagett maintains, however, that there is no advantage to applying ED, and the discrepancy in acceptance rates is due to a higher quality pool in November.

While some find troubling the appearance that incoming classes are increasingly made up of ED students, Clagett notes that ED matriculates have commonly made up over 40 percent of accepted classes in recent years. Last year, 47 percent of the Class of 2013 was accepted ED; the year before that, the percentage was 46; and in the three years prior, the percentages were 39, 38, and 41, respectively.

"There were years in the past 10 to 15 years when 45-48 percent of the class was admitted early," Clagett said.

While this increase can be explained by a corresponding increase in ED applicant quality — average SAT scores in this group have risen almost 80 points over the past four years — it remains true that a class made up with more ED applicants requires less financial aid.

Assistant Director of Student Financial

Services Jacqueline Davies acknowledged this trend.

"If a higher percentage of the incoming class is admitted early decision, it follows that the amount of aid would be somewhat less," Davies said.

Middbrief by Jaime Fuller, News Editor

Handicap-accessible bathroom constructed in Sunderland

Construction at Sunderland Language Center to make the main entrance compliant with regulations in the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) was completed earlier this month. A handicap-accessible bathroom has also been built off the main lobby.

The construction began on Dec. 14, as soon as students left campus after exams. Staff affected by the renovations moved back into their offices this week.

According to Mark Gleason, a project manager with Facilities Services, the renovation was approved because the building is heavily used by students and the Middlebury community at large because of the 24-hour computer lab in Sunderland and the many programs held at Dana Auditorium.

Another, less visible aspect of the renovation is a plan to increase Sunderland's energy efficiency by insulating portions of the roof.

According to a building energy audit completed in 2008, the heating and cooling of college buildings currently accounts for approximately 80 percent of the carbon footprint, as stated in the 2008 Master Plan.

"The building was constructed in the 1960s without insulation, as was the practice at the time," wrote Gleason in an e-mail. "With the project funds available, approximately one-half of the building roof was insulated."

According to Furnishings and Communications Specialist Julie Hoyenski, there are no other major projects planned on campus. The residential carbon monoxide detector project that began last year is being continued, with Gifford and the Ross Complex next in line to receive the detectors. Students living in these dorms will be notified when the construction occurs.

There once was a camel who lived on Route 7...

Vermont's very own camel route

Oliver the camel is not native to Vermont. But then, neither is Judith Giusto, his owner, and she is getting along fine.

"I'm originally from New York City," Giusto explained. "I owned a business in New York. Then I adopted a boy as a single mom. I was bringing up a child in New York City, and I thought, 'Maybe there's a better way to do this.'"

Giusto's solution was a farm in Ferrisburg, Vt., where Merino sheep were her animal of choice. She now runs the farm with her 19-year-old son, Montana, and a recently hired farm worker.

"I was learning more about textiles and the animals that produced them," Giusto said of her choice to focus on fibers. "I wanted to create an artistic expression that people could use every day."

This concept manifests itself in the scarves and sweaters that Giusto's knitters create from the fibers harvested at her farm, Round Barn Merinos on Route 7. Like any artist, Giusto likes to draw from a varied palette.

"Sheep are what we all know," Giusto said. "You understand their fiber. Then your horizons start to widen, you start to realize that sheep aren't the only animals that make fiber. You start to realize there are more exotic animals."

Seventeen years after Giusto purchased Round Barn Merinos, it is now home to about 100 sheep, an alpaca, and a Bactrian camel.

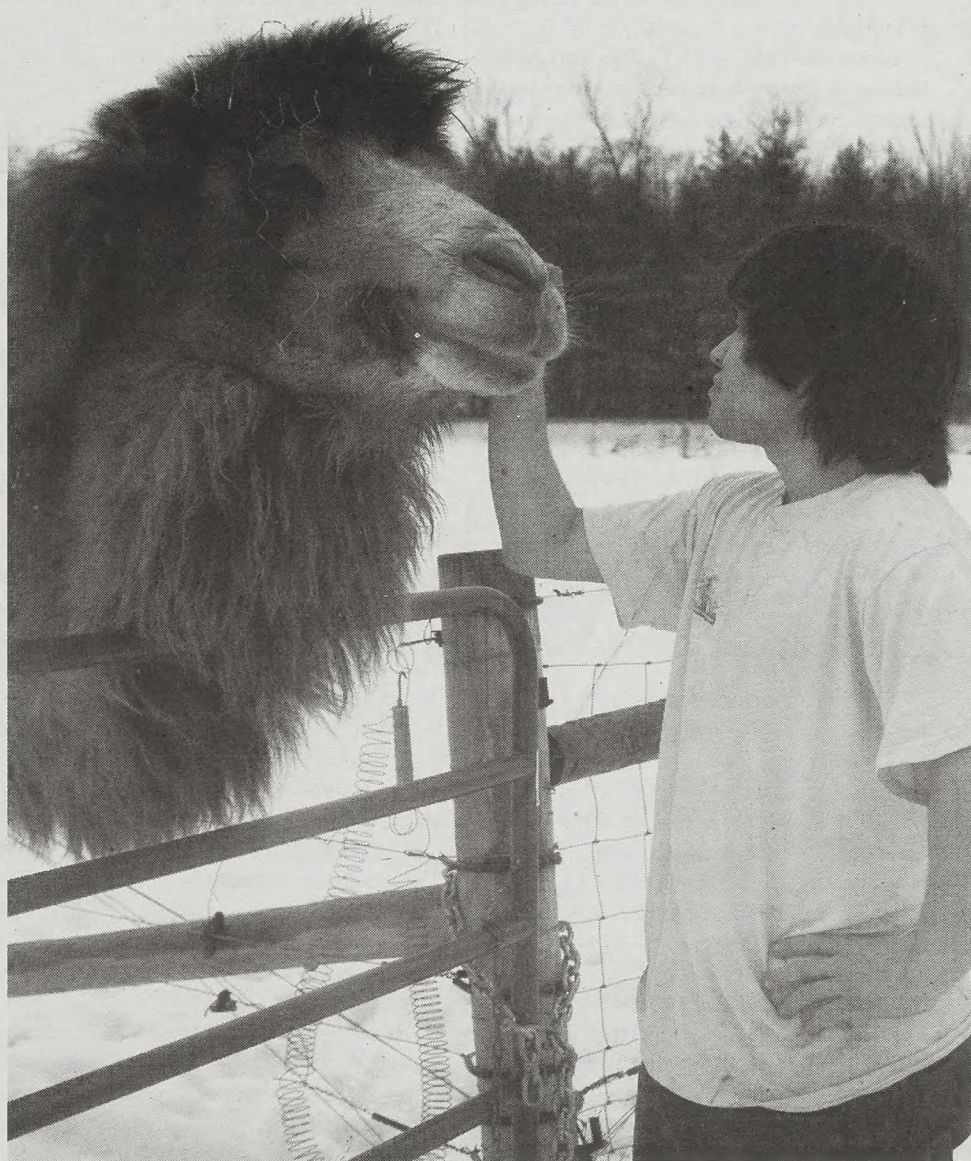
The camel, Oliver, was born in 2002 on a camel farm in Wisconsin. Giusto compares Oliver's breed to the llamas of Latin America. Like the llamas, Bactrian camels are often used for transportation and milk. Unlike Dromedaries, the one-humped species, Bactrian camels are also utilized for their fiber, which can be spun and used for textiles.

"If you want a durable fiber for a coat, you shear the whole camel and take the down and the hair," Giusto explained. "If you want something very soft, similar to a cashmere scarf, you pluck the camel and separate the down."

Giusto practices the latter method of fiber collection, a process that begins in early spring.

"He molts like a bird losing its feathers," Giusto said. "It doesn't all come out on day one or two, it happens over the course of about a month. Every evening my son or I will walk him on his halter and one of us will follow, gathering up all his fur."

The next step is to spin the fiber. Unlike the sheep's wool, which is spun at Green Mountain Spinnery in Putney, Vt., Oliver's down, classified as an exotic fiber, must be sent to Prince Edward Island in Canada. From there it is sent to the knitters.



Montana Giusto, Judith Giusto's son, pets Ollie, who was rumored to be ill-tempered but is actually very affectionate with his family.

Photos by Andrew Ngeow, Photo Editor

By Grady Ross

Local News Editor

"No camel route is long, with good company."
Turkish Proverb

"The knitters make it into scarves," Giusto explained. "That's pretty much all I do with his down. When I first got him I was turning it into knitting yarn. He produces about five pounds of down per year. If you turn that into yarn it's not going very far. But only about three ounces are used in every scarf."

Oliver's fiber, while decadent in a scarf, serves practical purposes for the camel itself.

"Bactrian camels come from central Asia," said Giusto. "Places like Mongolia, Afghanistan and the Russian Steppes. They have unique coats to get the animals through the winter."

His native habitat makes Oliver well-suited to Vermont's climate, but people's misguided understanding of a camel as a desert species has caused concern.

"It's interesting," Giusto stated. "When you live in a place that is as exposed as my farm is, your life becomes very public whether you like it or not. People complain to animal control, and I have to address those complaints. Once you've been reported to animal control you have to explain how you're not abusing your animals."

"You could get annoyed," Giusto admitted. "But the thing to do is to educate people. Sometimes people complain that the sheep are outside during the winter, and I say, 'If you lived your life with a wool sweater on, you would be warm.'"

When Giusto receives complaints that Oliver's water trough is empty in the peak of summer's heat, she must explain that Oliver, as is appropriate for his breed, receives water once a day, and that he doesn't take his water from a trough, but from a hose.

But despite people's ignorance, Giusto is thankful for the visitors.

"People stop all the time," Giusto said. "One of the reasons I did get Oliver was to help bring recognition to the farm. Sometimes it's inundated with people."

Oliver responds well to the attention. Camels are social animals by nature.

"He is a very intelligent animal," Giusto said of Oliver. "He wants people to acknowledge him and he'll run and play for attention." This behavior took Giusto, who had been accustomed to sheep, by surprise.

"It was an eye-opener," Giusto said. "You begin to believe that animals behave like people. All the other animals on the farm know that Oliver is the largest animal and could hurt them should he choose to. The alpaca integrates with the flock differently. He instinctively takes charge of the flock, and when he thinks that it is in trouble, he will get the sheep and help move them."

Giusto's knowledge about animals has grown significantly since her career in New York City and her seemingly random decision to move her life to Vermont.

"People thought I was crazy," Giusto laughed, of her decision to start a sheep farm. "They thought it couldn't be done."

But Giusto, like Oliver, whose breed is known for its perseverance — they are often utilized as pack animals on Mount Everest — has risen to the challenge.

"It wasn't like I got up one morning after 30 or 35 years of working in corporate America and decided to be a brain surgeon," Giusto said. "I've never tried to do something so beyond my grasp that it couldn't be done. But, like I did as a single mom adopting a child, I thought to myself, 'How hard can this be?'"

Rep. reexamines term 'on duty'

By Elizabeth Scarinci
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

Just over three weeks ago on a foggy December night in Shoreham, Vt., volunteer firefighter Peter Coe was driving with his family when he saw a car stuck in a ditch. He pulled over to the side of the road and began to extricate a person from the car. At that moment, a truck driver in a Chevrolet pickup came over a hill and saw Coe's headlights a second too late. The truck swerved out of control and struck Coe, taking his life.

Because Coe did not fall under the current definition of "on duty" at the time of his death, it is unclear whether his family will receive monetary benefits for losing a family member during service. Many Vermonters have become outraged that his family might not receive benefits because Coe was performing a firefighter's service at the time of his death.

State representative William Stevens recently took special interest in the case and began drafting a bill to expand what it means to be "on duty" as a volunteer firefighter. He will introduce the bill, however, only if authority figures close to the matter feel it would benefit Coe or other firefighters in the future.

"I would defer to the fire department chief and the town's attorney," Stevens said. "I want to do what is right, but only if it's appropriate."

The town has hired an attorney to look after the family's interests with regards to monetary benefits. As a parallel track, Stevens is hoping to introduce a bill that will ensure that a firefighter's family receives compensation if a similar situation arises in the future.

"I thought I would look into what, if any, legislation might be needed that would ensure that the next family would be able to qualify,

even if [Coe's] doesn't," Stevens said.

Currently, state legislature defines the law so that those whose immediate relatives die in the line of duty will qualify to receive monetary benefits.

"But what constitutes 'line of duty?'" Stevens questioned, "It looks a little narrow to me."

Stevens communicated a belief that a firefighter is on duty for many more hours than he is on duty under the current definition. Stevens noted that because he was a volunteer firefighter, it was not as if he had clear-cut shifts when

If [the insurance company] says no, it will be a firestorm.

—Jim Ortuno

he was on or off duty.

"Where it gets hairy is when you ask the question, 'when is a volunteer firefighter not on duty?'" Stevens remarked. "My answer is, they are always on duty."

Jim Ortuno, a colleague of Coe's and the first firefighter on the scene after Coe's accident, expressed similar beliefs about the matter.

"We are on duty as soon as we step out of the car," Ortuno said. "We are on duty 24/7."

Although Stevens wants to take action, he is worried that introducing the bill will work against the cause and ultimately facilitate the insurance company in denying Coe's family monetary benefits.

"It might give ammunition to the insurance company," Stevens said.

Stevens worries that the insurance company will read the bill and will intentionally deny monetary benefits to Coe's family in retaliation.

Stevens has also heard concerns that the bill will encourage firefighters to skip protocol.

"While everyone agrees on principle that [Coe] and his family should be compensated, some didn't want to change things in terms of the implications of protocol," Stevens said.

Ortuno, however, mentioned that in Coe's case, there had not been a protocol set up when he began to help the victim.

"The first person on the scene sets up the protocol and he was in the middle of doing that," Ortuno said. "He had a flashlight in his hand figuring out what needed to be done."

The Shoreham fire station has received several letters from other fire stations across the country with condolences.

About three-quarters of firefighters across the country work as volunteers and according to Ortuno, many are watching for the insurance company's decision on Coe's case.

"If [the insurance company] says no, it will be a firestorm," Ortuno said.

On a personal level, Ortuno feels that he cannot continue as a firefighter if his family will not receive monetary support in the case of his death.

"I won't get out of my car if they won't protect my family if something happens to me," Ortuno said.

Both Stevens and Ortuno acknowledged that there are some volunteer firefighters who act before they think. Ortuno suggested that Coe was not one of them.

"[Coe] was the kind of person that if you were on the side of the road in trouble, you would pray for someone like him to drive by because he would stop and help," Ortuno said.

local lowdown

Open Mic Night

Jan. 22, 7:30 p.m.

Talents of all kinds are welcome at the monthly Carol's Hungry Mind open mic. Bring an instrument, spoken word art or any other performance you want to share with a crowd. Sign-ups for time slots begin at 7:30 p.m.

Button Up Middlebury

Jan. 23, 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Efficiency Vermont will provide free training and materials to help Button Up Middlebury volunteers learn how to conduct energy audits on local homes. Help the local community save energy and reduce its carbon footprint! More information and sign-ups at (802) 388-9478 or lasermily@yahoo.com.

The Horse Traders Benefit Show

Jan., 9 - 10 p.m.

The Horse Traders return for their second annual "Face Off Against Breast Cancer" benefit show at Two Brothers Tavern, donating all door proceeds and 10 percent of sales to the Cancer Patient Support Program. The Horse Traders are a five-piece band that covers favorites of the '70s, '80s, '90s, as well as current pop rock, blues, and soul. Don't miss out!

Comedy for a Cause

Jan. 24, 5 - 6 p.m.

Four Vermont comedians — Nathan Brady Crain, Jason Lorber, Autumn Engroff and a comic yet to be announced — will perform a show at Carol's Hungry Mind in which all proceeds go to benefit the CVOEO's Middlebury Area Food Shelf. There will be no door charge, but passed hat donations will be much appreciated. Don't miss this unique opportunity to see some of the state's most talented comics lay it on the line for a good cause. Some of the jokes may be adult themed, so children should stay at home.

Flu vaccine clinic

Jan. 26, 3 - 6 p.m.

If you still need a seasonal or H1N1 flu vaccine, don't miss this clinic at the American Legion in Middlebury. For adults in Addison County only, more information at (802) 388-7259.

Snowshoe trek

Jan. 26, 9 - 10 a.m.

Get outside in the snow before it's gone! Join the Green Mountain Club at the Battell Trailhead in Lincoln for a difficult six-mile outing with a 2,500-foot ascent to the summit of Mount Abraham. Contact leader John Predom to sign up at (802) 377-9654 or john@vtrushfan.com.

Carol's Dance Party

Jan. 29, 8 p.m.

The first one was such a hit, Carol's Hungry Mind is bringing back its dance party for all ages for round two. Join fellow students and community members at the Middlebury VFW and boogie to a mix of swing, rock and anything danceable.

Local Wanders



by Timothy O'Grady

Nestled five miles down a dirt road in the Moosalamoo National Recreation Area, the Blueberry Hill Ski Touring Center offers visitors ultimate solitude and breathtaking mountain views. With about 46 miles of trails of varying difficulty and terrain, Blueberry Hill is one of the most renowned cross-country skiing and snowshoeing centers in the state. The ski center is located about 30 minutes from the College in Goshen, Vt., and is accessible from Route 125.

As I approached Blueberry Hill, an amicable black dog that could only be described as "a mix of all sorts" greeted me. Griffin followed me to the front door of the beautiful 1813 farmhouse which serves as Blueberry Hill Inn — a year-round "country living" inn that has been operating for over four decades. Paige, the inn's receptionist, was exceptionally hospitable upon my arrival, offering me cookies and tea in between answering phone calls. Blueberry Hill's chocolate chip cookies are notoriously delicious and are always available for guests to take from the cookie jar in the inn's kitchen.

Tony Clark purchased the Blueberry Hill Inn in 1968 and has been the owner for four decades. The ski touring center

opened up three years later in 1971 and since then has been rated one of the finest Nordic ski centers in New England.

Welsh in origin, but born in France, Clark had aspirations to travel around the United States and eventually settled down in Goshen. Clark believes that Blueberry Hill continues to be one of Vermont's most popular ski touring centers because the trails are more extensive and scenic than most.

"People get the feeling of being out there in the wilderness," said Clark.

The ski lodge is housed in the estate's original barn located across the street from the inn. The ski center offers full day (\$20) and half-day (\$12) passes

mont. The Romance Trail is also part of the comprehensive Catamount Trail — a 300-mile winter-use trail for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing that extends down the entire length of Vermont.

Clark believes that the ski center's location in the Moosalamoo National Recreation Area makes it unique because it ensures that the rural landscape will be preserved for future generations to enjoy. Moosalamoo protects 15,875 acres of land in the heart of the Green Mountains and can be explored during all four seasons.

"[The ski center] was designed for those seeking picturesque Vermont without being disturbed by roads or highways," said Clark.

The sense of escaping civilization and connecting with nature is one thing that made my time at Blueberry Hill memorable. As I diverged from the frequently used Beginner Loop onto a narrow wooded trail, I was completely enchanted by the graceful force of nature. The snow beneath me was interspersed with ski grooves and

animal tracks and the only sound I heard was the babbling brook that skirted the trail. Moments like this remind me of just how beautiful Vermont's landscape really is.

Tim O'Grady is a sophomore from Huntington, N.Y. He is a geography major with aspirations to be a travel writer. After graduating from Middlebury, he plans to waste his life savings on various backpacking trips in faraway places.

that begin after 2 p.m. Although the center offers ski rentals, students can save a few bucks by renting cross-country skis, boots and poles from the Middlebury Mountain Club during their open gear hours.

The lodge itself is especially charming, complete with original wood floors and an old wood-burning stove. Guests can also enjoy a complimentary bowl of soup in the lodge from 12 - 2 p.m. when they buy a day pass. It's a good excuse to avoid Proctor's long lunch lines.

Blueberry Hill boasts a variety of trails ranging from the three mile beginner's trail to the Romance Trail which, at an elevation of 2,900 feet, is the highest groomed cross-country trail in Ver-

Blueberry Hill Ski Touring Center
1307 Goshen Ripton Road, Goshen, Vt., 05733
<http://www.blueberryhillinn.com>
(802) 247-6735

The ski center is open daily 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., with half-day prices going into effect at 2 p.m. Middlebury students can receive a 25 percent discount on the day pass by showing their Student ID.

The Middlebury Campus

Managing Editor Tess Russell
Editor-in-Chief Brian Fung
Business Manager Zachary Karst

News Editors
 Anthony Adragna
 Jaime Fuller
 Kara Shurmantine

Features Editors
 Rachael Jennings
 H. Kay Merriman
 Ted Silberman
 Roz Vara

Arts Editors
 Tamara Hilmes
 Joanna Rothkopf
 Emily Stephens
 Dana Walters

Online Editors
 George Altshuler
 Tom Brant
 Ryan Kellett

Photo Editors
 Eleanor Horowitz
 Salla Huusko
 Andrew Ngeow
 Nicolas Sohl

Opinions Editors
 Peter Baumann
 Isabel Shaw
 Ian Trombulak

Sports Editors
 Kevin Carpenter
 Emma Gardner
 Alyssa O'Gallagher
 Katie Siegner

Local News Editors
 Lea Calderon-Guthe
 Elizabeth Scarinci
 Grady Ross

Editorial

The staff editorial represents the official opinion of The Middlebury Campus as decided by the editorial board.

Skeptical

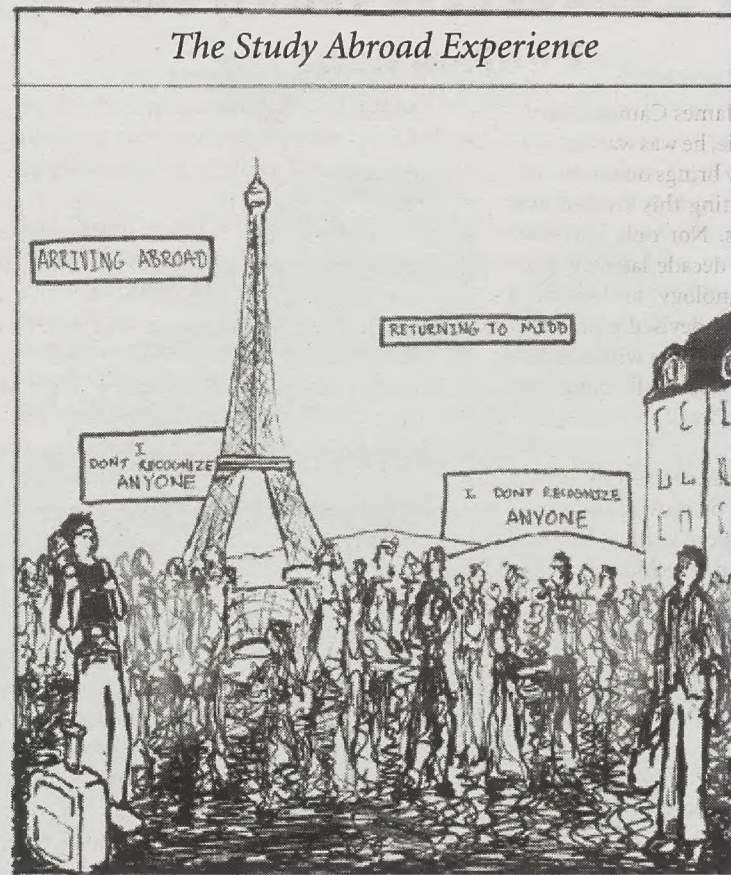
Not long ago, we reacted with optimism to a reinvigorated SGA Senate that knocked down issue after issue under the resourceful and ambitious leadership of SGA President Michael Panzer '10. Panzer's SGA seemed poised for more breakthroughs in the new year, having passed a bill in December to fund a renewed outdoor orientation program for first-years through 2012. This week, though, it looks as though the Senate's luck has finally run out.

Old Chapel's sudden withdrawal of support for MiddView — a program it had previously expressed great regret over dismantling — is nothing short of disrespectful. There is clear demand for these orientation programs, and those in a position to restore them have done the research, crunched the numbers and made a strong case for themselves in spite of the slog of bureaucratic inertia. We deeply regret the administration's decision to leave an organic, creative and fiscally feasible student initiative to wither on the vine.

It's hard to imagine why this valuable orientation program can't return. We are tremendously appreciative of this community's facilities staff, but we find Old Chapel's defense of postponing MiddView's reinstatement unconvincing and thin. MiddView orientation programs typically require few staff members to begin with, as participants not already camping in the wilderness spend their evenings at the low-maintenance Bread Loaf campus. What's more, the cost of labor and facilities' operations had been factored into the SGA's funding estimate long before the initial bill signing. The administration's reticence in the face of an overwhelmingly intelligent and thorough student proposal ought not to be excused.

Despite this week's disappointing news, we nevertheless remain hopeful for a compromise. Even if students and their government representatives concede the administration's point about staffing, perhaps MiddView might easily be reshaped from a pre-orientation activity into a program that runs in the same week as orientation. Orientation itself could be trimmed from an interminable six days to a more manageable three, although that might involve a separate debate. In any case, we seek to remind students that the end of the road does not lie here. The road ends where we say it does.

The Middlebury Campus (USPS 556-060), the student newspaper of Middlebury College, is published by The Middlebury Campus Publications. Publication is every Thursday of the academic year, except during official college vacation periods and final examinations. Editorial and business offices are located in Hepburn Hall Annex, Middlebury College. The Middlebury Campus is produced on Apple Macintosh computers using Adobe InDesign CS4 and is printed by the Press Republican in New York. The advertising deadline for all display and classified advertising is 5 p.m. Friday for the following week's issue. Mailing address: The Middlebury Campus, Drawer 30, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt., 05753. Business phone: (802) 443-5737. Please address distribution concerns to the Business Director. First class postage paid at Middlebury, Vt., 05753.



Josh Aichenbaum and Ryan Scura

Notes From the Desk: Brian Fung

Disaster relief 2.0

Last week, I gave \$10 to Haiti without ever opening my wallet.

This stroke of monetary jujitsu was achieved without trickery or design. Instead, a few taps of my index finger were enough to complete the transaction and send the money on its way.

Thanks to mobile phone technology, international relief agencies are better prepared than ever to collect donations for crisis-afflicted regions worldwide. Through so-called "text-to-give" programs, anybody with a cell phone can make pledges to Haiti in increments of \$5 and up. These programs have been nothing if not wildly successful. The American Red Cross alone raised over \$10 million for Haiti in the first three days of its mobile relief initiative — at a rate of \$100,000 every hour.

By hooking themselves into a rapid, ubiquitous and growing form of communication, aid agencies have broken ground on a radically new fundraising model. Two years ago, American cell phone users were sending about a billion text messages a day. By October 2009, that number had quadrupled. Relief organizations are just beginning to tap into a vast donor market that could make responding to disasters as simple as giving into a collective social habit. After all, what's one more text message, especially if it's for a good cause and the pinch doesn't come until the end of the billing cycle?

Pledging by phone changes the act of giving in subtle ways. Paradoxically, mobile relief can be even less immediate than sending a check. Not only is the cost to the donor kicked down the road, but the donation itself can take up to three months to reach its destination. And while some cellular service providers, like Verizon, have agreed to advance millions of dollars to the Red Cross in recognition of the countless pledges its customers have made in recent days, suspending what Verizon's president called "normal financial processes" for the Haitian

crisis looks to be a temporary measure only.

More fundamentally, the text-to-give phenomenon challenges us to revisit our conception of philanthropy. When a donation of \$10 becomes abstracted as another line item on another statement from another faceless corporation — the same corporation we otherwise curse for poor 3G coverage, or lousy customer service — can we claim to have made good on our duty to one another as global citizens?

Responding to disasters could become as simple as giving into a collective social habit.

I find the utilitarian response quite appealing. Money to Haiti is money to Haiti. Forget who the donors are. Forget their motives.

But I can't, because I know that despite what I've already given, I could still offer more. And, because writing a check or making a credit card purchase typically involve much larger sums of money, donating by either method would probably have led to a heavier pledge — \$30, perhaps. Or \$50. At least in my case, text-to-give literally cheapened the value of my donation. I took the easy way out.

In an urgent crisis situation like the one facing Haiti, the sheer volume of mobile relief donations likely compensates for the paltry value of each individual pledge. In fact, the option to give by text probably convinced some to donate who otherwise might not have. Still, it's worth asking how text-to-give changes the calculation we all make when deciding (how much) to pledge. When a gift becomes too easily given, how much is it really worth?

Here's an idea — give until it hurts. If you're a Starbucks addict, reallocate a week's worth of coffee money to Haiti. Been eyeing a new guitar? Put off that purchase for a month.

Broadly speaking, if you find it easy to give, then you might be able to afford giving some more. And if you can, do.

BRIAN FUNG '10 IS THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF FROM ROCKVILLE, MD.

campus policies and information

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editors, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's web site at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Sunday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

Behind Enemy Lines: Andrey Tolstoy Peek-a-Boo!

The last time James Cameron sunk \$200 million into a movie, he was warned by the *LA Times*: "What really brings on the tears is [his] insistence that writing this kind of movie is within his abilities. Not only is it not, it is not even close." A decade later, after waiting patiently for technology to become more expensive, Cameron devised a plan that was \$37 million better. It came with a warning of his own: if *Avatar* does well enough, he will use his next lunch break to write nine more sequels.

For one, Cameron's prolific output will ease the pain of moviegoers who went into depression upon leaving theaters. I'm not making this up. Psychiatrists have been dealing with a stream of patients complaining that life has lost meaning to them since they saw the wonders of digital animation. A fan on Naviblue.com writes: "I even contemplate suicide thinking that if I do it, I will be reborn in a world similar to Pandora and everything is the same as in 'Avatar.'" You will not be missed.

The fundamental flaw of "Avatar" can be described with one of its own metaphors. In a hastily slapped-together montage sequence, one of the scientists explains the indigenous Na'vi greeting "I see you" as "much more than that. It's like, 'I see into you and understand you...'" By equating seeing with understanding, you lower yourself to Cameron's superficial worldview, in which every viewer is inherently a moron. For example, every creature on Pandora has a tentacle, which they use to touch other creatures' tentacles and thereby establish a special psychic bond — like they're making a connection. Do you see?

"Avatar" has been accused of copy-pasting swaths of "Dances with Wolves," "Pocahontas," "FernGully" and countless other works that would never dream of being plagiarized. If you're wondering where the images of aliens came from, don't be fooled by Cameron's fib that he was inspired by manifestations of Hindu deities. Watch Mel Gibson's "Apocalypse" (2006). It's like Mel went forward three years in time, watched "Avatar" and decided to invent a rainforest-

dwelling civilization, where everyone wears dreads, thongs and blue paint on special occasions. Or — "Quick, blow some s--- up before they notice!"

While the technical innovations employed in the film are impressive, they lack purpose because the script was not designed to accommodate them. Shot-by-shot, nothing distinguishes "Avatar" from another action movie because that's exactly what it is. Cameron did not challenge himself with the technology by responding to its intrinsic demands, to the necessity of making the viewer's skin crawl with every new scene because it is so mind-blowingly lifelike. There is no grand finale where the director says,

**"I even
contemplate
suicide thinking
that if I do it, I
will be reborned
in a world similar
to Pandora."**

"You think you've seen 3-D? No, my friend, watch this!" Instead, he banks on the narrative. Big mistake.

The Guardian writes: "Cameron has constructed a fable that combines militarist sci-fi, alarmingly vacuous eco-waffle and an intra-species love story that is presumably designed to cover

all the bases" — another sign that art for its own sake is last on his agenda. The fantastical potential of Pandora is tethered at every step to the sociopolitical bases "Avatar" tries to cover, making it impossible to let one's mind wander because the illusion is shattered every minute by the film's rabid craving for topicality.

And for those of you still willing to cut the film slack for his insights into colonialism, dig this gem of authorial commentary: "The Na'vi represent something that is our higher selves, or our aspirational selves, what we would like to think we are," while the humans "represent what we know to be the parts of ourselves that are trashing our world and maybe condemning ourselves to a grim future." Perhaps in his next film Cameron will share his thoughts on what different races on Earth represent, and how he would like to see them duke it out.

You may be a lover, James, but you ain't no dancer.

ANDREY TOLSTOY '10 IS FROM
ST. PETERSBURG, RUSSIA.

heardoncampus

**If you can text and drive, you
can text and donate.**

— Nial Rele '12

Red, Right and Blue: Rachel Pagano Defying politics in Haiti

I must begin this column with a quick apology. To anyone who read my last column before Christmas break, I am very sorry. Unlike most conservative youths whom I know, I fulfill the Republican stereotype of being very bad with a computer. My roommate likes to tell stories of my inability to use iTunes. In a moment of computer-related stupidity, I sent the wrong version of my column to *The Campus* and that is why it looked as though I am unable to speak or write English. I have since been taught how to replace a file, so I hope your faith in me may return in time.

On another and much more serious note, there is one event which demands our attention, our concern and our sympathy far beyond any other. The earthquake that rocked Haiti is one of the most terrible events which many of us have ever witnessed. As much of a cliché as it may seem, these are events that should show us the unimportance of national borders and different languages, much less political parties, compared to the common humanity whose pain we see on every Internet news site and newspaper cover as we go about our lives. The earthquake killed countless people and left thousands more homeless, destitute and in intense need of humanitarian aid. Whether you believe in the chaos of nature or the incomprehensible will of a god, it is something which no human agent, no government, political organization or group of experts could control. Now, in the aftermath, we must concentrate on what can still be done, rather than what we wish people would do or whether their motives are pure.

Government officials, politicians and political theorists have argued for decades about the question of what one country's government owes to citizens of another. For example, should America, undeniably one

of the most powerful and financially able countries in the world, interfere in the civil war of Somalia or the genocide in Rwanda? These questions and others like them must come with a political agenda, ideology and a look towards the future of all countries involved. Aid to Haiti does not bring the same complicated and political questions, and therefore should also be devoid of political backlash, bragging or berating. This is not to say that no political calculations go into the transport of massive amounts of goods which are expensive to obtain and problematic to deliver, but these are not the usual political questions. These do not involve enemy combatants or international treaties. Instead it is a question about aid to a country where the very ground has been ripped up under the feet of its people.

In the last few days there have been articles and blogs on both sides that have tried to politicize the disaster. On one side, there is the comparison of relief to Haiti with relief after Katrina. People calculate the various death tolls, the rate of relief and try to compare the Bush and Obama presidencies. On the other side, there are those ready to criticize President Obama for capitalizing on the promises of aid. Hurricane Katrina was a truly terrible event which ended by raising political questions. But the true horror of it was not in the arena of the political, but in that of the human — the human loss of life. The same is true on a much greater scale here. In a recent address, former Presidents Bush and Clinton asked for people to put aside their political differences and together attack the much more serious devastation. For once I can actually say that I agree with them both.

RACHEL PAGANO '11 IS FROM SANTA FE,
N.M.

A Preface to Lunch: James O'Brien The Dinosaur Theory

Have you ever looked around the dining hall and started thinking derogatory thoughts about how people are disgusting animals? Admit it. Or if you haven't, try it. See that dude over there by the window? Yeah, the one eating a banana and scratching himself. Don't pretend he doesn't look like the son of T.S. Eliot and the Rosie O'Donnell gorilla from "Tarzan" — and he also sort of looks like he's been poisoned by nuclear radiation, doesn't he? Gross. Well, I've got great news for both you and the radioactive lesbian poet ape: Rejoice, for dinosaurs can make you a hell of a lot happier and boatloads less critical.

Today, I bring you the Dinosaur Theory. Not just because I love dinosaurs, and they are the coolest, and not just because I love theories, but because this can change the way you see the world — or at least make time at the dining hall more fun. The Dinosaur Theory, postulated by G. Frieden, whose father has an M.D., is this: instead of looking at people as, well, people, just think of every person you see as being a dinosaur. This may seem a little silly — and it is — but it works. Instead of analyzing the physical strengths and weaknesses of those around you, holding them up to the scrutiny of what you've come to believe is attractive, just look up from this paper and see nothing but dinosaurs. That bald dude — dinosaur. That chick who might be a dude — dinosaur. Voilà, you are freed of the compulsion to judge people in terms of attractiveness. They're all just dinos. Now, I know what you're thinking — that's not a theory! Well, the theory part of it is this: If you look at other people as dinosaurs, theoretically the world will become wonderful. Test it out. Haven't you always wanted to watch a dinosaur eat those grossly delicious Oreo Cheesecake cupcakey things? Here's your chance!

At the risk of seeming like Jerry Springer during his Final Thought — when he tries to translate his show's fubar lunacy into some sort of weirdly simple take-home message for children or the mentally challenged — I'd like to point out that this Dinosaur Theory shows us two interesting things about our traditional mental schemas: 1. We really love people when they're dinosaurs. 2. We're overly critical. It's not our fault really — we were taught to be this way, with all of our grade school teach-

**The theory part of it is this:
if you look at other people
as dinosaurs, theoretically
the world will become
wonderful.**

ers stressing "critical thinking skills." The problem is, it's hard to turn off the thinking when you leave the classroom unless you have incredible compartmentalization skills, which are not taught in school and are also easily confused by critical thinkers with dumbness or naiveté. That being said, we're often not critical enough, mainly in terms of the general assumptions we make about the world, which we then are too lazy to question.

In going about my day-to-day life, I tend to assume that since we are children of the Age of Enlightenment, we are somehow more intelligent than the lovable-but-bumbling humans of the past who, try as they might, had it all wrong. Under

scrutiny, it turns out that this thinking is misguided, like when people read this column and expect real opinions instead of comic philosophical musings at the intellectual level of a stoned eighth grader watching Pokémon re-runs. We don't know as much as we think we do, personally and collectively. Irrelevant things are still mistaken for "important evidence" all the time. Case in point, vis-à-vis dinosaurs: In 1999, *National Geographic* announced the discovery of the "archaeoraptor," the missing evolutionary link between dinosaurs and birds. Unfortunately, it turned out that some Chinese guy had just thrown together a fossilized chicken and a lizard tail before claiming that he found the fossil buried in 125 million year-old rocks. Also, as recently as 1920, a relatively large faction of the scientific community believed that the stegosaurus had possessed two brains: one in its head and one in its butt. Unfortunately, this idea was too cool to be accepted, and today it is thought that the cavity in the tail of the stegosaurus was used to store glycogen. But really, who knows? I, for one, am excited as hell for the day when the President of the United Society of Science has to call a press conference to admit that his/her esteemed colleagues "really dropped the ball on that whole evolution thing," and "we'd like to officially announce we have no idea."

As human beings, we like to think there are things that we "know," but every once in a while, it's nice to look around you and see your fellow human beings as dinosaurs. Go ahead, do it. Hopefully you'll be overjoyed. And maybe you'll begin to wonder if knowing is as wonderful as it seems.

JAMES O'BRIEN '10 IS FROM MEDFIELD, MASS.

Campus Crossword Puzzle

Across

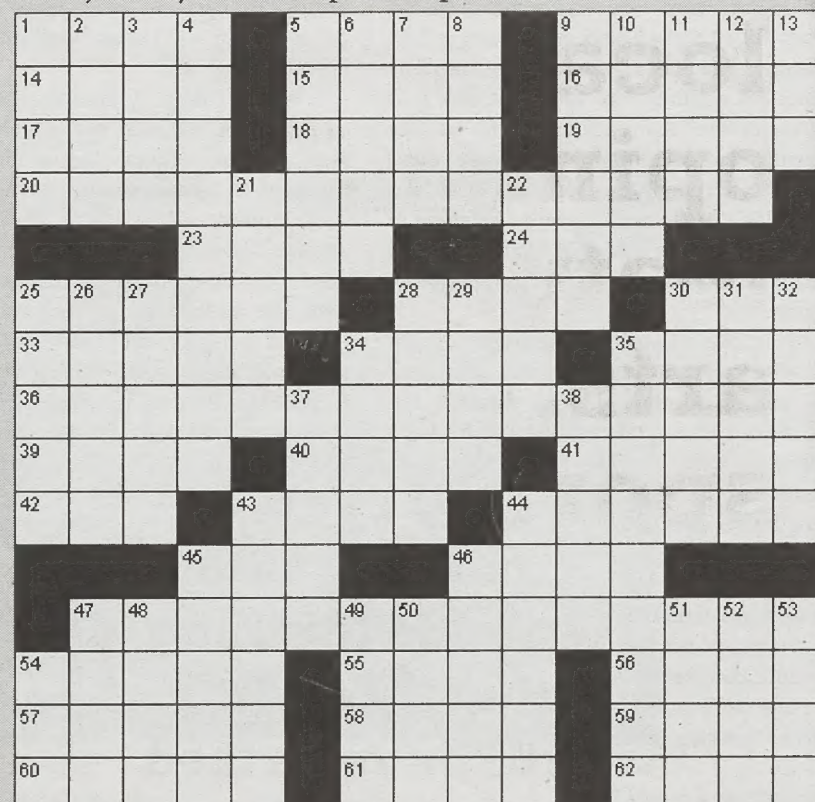
1. Ersatz
5. Drunkards
9. Stats for 54-across
14. Tolstoy's "_____ Karenina"
15. Sonic reverberation
16. Ancient Greek marketplace
17. Fortune teller
18. Blood conveyer
19. Implicit
20. 1957 Best Picture Nominee
23. Knitter's resource
24. AARP concern
25. Powerless
28. Trails behind
30. Quick punch
33. "I swear"
34. 'New World' monkey, colloquially
35. Vietnamese market town
36. Theme of this puzzle
39. F.D.R.'s military brainchild
40. Sea eagle
41. Video game pioneer
42. View
43. Hertz rival
44. Casino or bar patrons
45. Raw, in Niche
46. Banned pesticide
47. 1979 Best Picture Winner
54. Liverpool goalkeeper Pepe
55. Test version
56. Bears' offensive coordinator Mike
57. Popular puzzle game
58. False or American follower

59. To be, to Pierre
60. Boat of Maori lore
61. New Delhi garb
62. Hunk

Down

1. Quick
2. Once more
3. Patella locale
4. Worm-getter
5. Like some storms
6. 'Houses of the Holy' track, with "The"
7. Svelte
8. 6-down, e.g.
9. Goat-humanoids of Greek myth
10. Traditional doctrine in Hinduism
11. You, in Brazil
12. Oscar-winner '_____ Brockovich'
13. H.S. exam for juniors
21. Parking aid
22. Craggy
25. Strange
26. Hangman's tool
27. Passage
28. Pride members
29. "Don't look _____"
30. Jazz pianist Ahmad
31. Separate
32. Foundation
34. Singer Amos
35. Soaks
37. Vaudeville
38. Recon tool
43. Naval fleet

"I Object!" by Kevin Carpenter, Sports Editor



44. Acid neutralizer
45. 60-across, e.g.
46. America's first multi-millionaire family
47. Chinese gambling phenomenon
48. Protest gone wrong
49. Stats for Pedroia

50. Atharva or Rg
51. Greg Maddux uses his well
52. Brownish hue
53. Marsh plant
54. 2010 World Cup locale, briefly

The answer to this week's crossword can be found online at www.middleburycampus.com. It will run bi-weekly in the Opinions section when *The Campus* returns in the spring.

The Middlebury Campus

we spent the last 105
years preparing for
this one.

Since 1905

**news.
local news.
opinions.
features.
arts.
sports.**



it's all **online.**

*visit
middleburycampus.com
or go/middcampus
today to discuss articles
and vote in the
weekly poll.*

Hit the Slopes!

A Guide to Local Skiing

By Ted S.

Additional Photos by

Luckily for winter sports enthusiasts, the one month during Middlebury's school year when students are not in class is also one of the best times to visit Vermont. Whether you are a skiing enthusiast who came for the great terrain from Florida who didn't quite realize how cold it gets here during the winter, Winter Term is the perfect time to visit. "America's original ski state" means there are plenty of options out there, but how do you know if the mountain is worth the two-hour drive? With this dilemma in mind, The Campus offers a primer on five top resorts from around the state, in the car (or shuttle bus) and hit the slopes!

1. Sugarbush Resort

A perennial favorite of Middlebury students, Sugarbush is less than an hour from campus in lovely Warren, Vt., home to the Warren Store. For those who get up early enough, the quaint country store offers the Reutzler breakfast sandwich, voted one of the "Top 5 Breakfast Bombs" by *Skiing Magazine*. But after breakfast is when the real fun begins. With 16 lifts and 111 trails, Sugarbush offers a wide variety of terrain that will satisfy skiers and boarders of all inclinations.

On weekends and holidays, the Slide Brook express Quad connects the Mt. Ellen half of the resort to the four peaks across the out-of-bounds valley that divides the resort in two. A great way to start off the day is with some Lincoln Peak groomers, like Spring Fling or Snowball, before getting into the steeper and more menacingly named Organgrinder. When you're ready for something more challenging, take the double lift to the top of Castlerock Peak for some single and double black diamonds. "Some of my best memories at Midd have been shredding the gnar with my bros on Castlerock," said Diego Aranzaenz '10. "When the snow's deep, there's no beating those bumps." With so much great terrain, you can't go wrong!

Sugarbush

2. Mad River Glen

Located down the ridge from the larger Sugarbush Resort, Mad River Glen has long dared enthusiasts to "Ski it if you can!" Almost half the trails are black diamonds for experts only, making the resort a favorite destination for experienced skiers, but those looking for a more casual day need not fear. Three double lifts service 24 beginner and intermediate slopes — more than enough to fill an entire day.

Although those doubles may seem more efficient, Mad River Glen's real charm is in its iconic single chairlift. Providing access to the majority of the resort's 21 expert trails, the chair gives skiers time alone to contemplate the steep lines they'll take after reaching the top of General Stark mountain. With over 250 inches of annual snowfall and no snowboarders to scrape it all away, Mad River Glen truly is a skier's mountain. "It's a traditional locals mountain," said Bruce Hallett '10. "Since it's a co-op, it's run by skiers, for skiers and that gives it a great authentic feel." Mad River Glen is the ideal spot if you want to get out and experience the mountains as they were meant to be. That is, unless you're a knuckle dragger.



3. Stowe Mountain Resort

Located on Mt. Mansfield, the tallest mountain in Vermont, as well as Spruce Peak, Stowe is one of the oldest resorts in the area. Since the Civilian Conservation Corps cut the first trails in 1933, the self-styled "ski capital of the East" has been a major vacation destination for skiers from all over the country. Though the celebrity is certainly warranted, it does attract tourists during peak times, not always a desirable quality in the eyes of the local skier. Many consider the resort too ritzy, but it may be just the place to take your parents when they visit. Overcome with the joy of seeing their baby after months away from home, they can probably be convinced to cough up the \$89 for a Saturday ticket.

Don't be fooled by the posh amenities that attract the rich and famous. The real reason Stowe is able to command such a price is the excellent terrain and over 300 inches of annual snowfall. Although also a great mountain for the whole family, advanced skiers love the challenging terrain. With most of the beginners and lesson groups on Spruce Peak, there are not as many children and slow skiers to clog up the better terrain on Mt. Mansfield. "With routinely great snow, steep pitch, great glades and awesome off-piste skiing, Stowe is definitely one of the best destinations in the state," said Sam Dawson '10. "The eight-person gondola is also a great way to get up the hill that you don't see as much here in the East."

Whether you're looking to live the easy life or ski your brains out, Stowe has what you're looking for. So, save up your money and experience one of Vermont's most classic ski resorts.



Local Skiing

By Ted Silberman, Features Editor

Additional Reporting by Tara Hughes

When students are not trapped in the library coincides with the great terrain or a first time snowboarder is the perfect time to try a new mountain. Living in Vermont, you know if the mountain you're about to visit is worth the drive from around the state. So, grab your gear, get



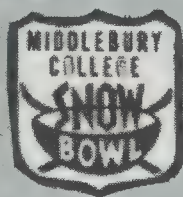
4. Stratton Mountain Ski Resort



Although one of Vermont's more famous resorts, Stratton may not be worth the 2.5-hour trek from Middlebury. Comparably priced to Stowe, this southern Vermont mainstay also has fantastic amenities and a hospitable town. One advantage of the high price and development that is readily apparent to real skiers is the abundance of high-speed lifts. They'll get you up the mountain faster, but that does not mean you'll spend more time skiing. Even this lift system cannot prevent the buildup of long lines at the bottom. Easily accessible from New York, the mountain attracts many tourists, much to the annoyance of people who just want to get out and ski.

Describing the resort, Dickie Redmond '10.5 said, "Big mountains, fast lifts, huge lines and expensive tickets. It seems that most people who go aren't there primarily for the skiing." If it is true that the average Stratton skier is not looking for the most intense skiing, it clearly shows in the abundance of groomed runs. Some visitors complain of the lack of pitch, so if you're interested in a nice, easy day, Stratton could be the place for you.

5. Middlebury College Snow Bowl



There are several aspects of Middlebury College that set it apart from other small, liberal arts colleges in the country. One such aspect is the Middlebury College Snow Bowl. One of two college-owned ski areas in the Northeast, the Snow Bowl is, in and of itself, one thing that sets Middlebury apart. Standing in line for one of the mountain's three chairlifts, you may find yourself standing next to your geography professor. Here's something the admissions office forgot to put in a pamphlet: in addition to claiming generous office hours, our professors provide students with a chance chairlift ride on one of the Bowl's busy Saturday afternoons.

Located in Hancock, Vermont, the Snow Bowl offers 110 acres of Green Mountain terrain covered by both natural and machine-made snow. With 17 trails and two glade areas, the Snow Bowl caters to a range of skiers and snowboarders.

In true Middlebury fashion, the Snow Bowl became the first carbon-neutral ski area in the United States in 2006. The Snow Bowl is open to the general public beyond Middlebury students and frequently hosts races and competitions.

Generally uncrowded during the week, the Snow Bowl sees crowds of local families and groups of students during the weekends. Despite the implications of a packed parking lot, however, the slopes remain spacious even on the busiest of days. The rental shop at the Snow Bowl offers equipment rentals for \$35 full day and \$30 half day. Tickets cost \$26 for a full day, \$21 for a half day, and \$150 for a student season pass. Means of transportation up to the mountain include bumming a ride from a friend, catching the ACTR shuttle or, conveniently, with a professor.

The L-Word



I've been thinking a lot recently about how other people perceive sex. Perhaps naïvely, I assumed that people with shameful or other negative feelings about physical intimacy simply avoided it, but sexual satisfaction is a need that must be met somehow, and I do know that it is all too easy to give in to desire. There are lots of people, then, who have intimate interludes and then feel really awful about it. This seems really obvious, of course, but since I formed my current understanding of sex, I have forgotten that I used to, and many people do, get intimate without it. My understanding is that sex is natural — perhaps the most natural thing humans do next to breathing and eating and sleeping. Sure, unlike those other things, you can live without intimacy, but why would you want to?

In my early days as a sexually active young person, my ideas about kissing, oral sex, intercourse — the whole gamut, really — went through many different stages.

When I was 13, long before I was more intimate than even quick kisses, I actually believed that you couldn't physically have sex unless both parties were in love with each other. I was utterly in love with my first partner, my high school boyfriend junior year, but by the end of our relationship, sex had become my only indication that he still cared about me, even though there was no love in it. In the months after we broke up, I tried to reaffirm my self-worth through sex — never, ever a good idea.

We are taught simultaneously that sex is an expression of deep affection, but that it can also be a meaningless way to meet physical needs, and, though I have since discovered that sex can't both mean everything and nothing at the same time, I employed both of those ideas in trying to rebuild my self-esteem. I took any interest in sex with me as proof that my partner cared for me very much, and I felt a sense of control over my partner in that I had something he or she wanted, and I was "cool enough" to offer it, no strings attached. It took a loving relationship for me to realize that unless sex is in the context of other caring interactions, it's rarely an expression of emotional attachment, and I didn't have any more power over my partners than a hamburger does over a hungry person.

In college, especially in those non-relationships I've discussed before, I've still been guilty of taking continued intimacy as a reaffirmation of my value to a specific person, but I'm beginning to get away from that behavior. It has taken a lot of discovering what sex isn't to help me figure out what sex is, and my definition isn't complete yet, but I'm getting there. So far, sex appears to be what I said it was in the beginning: a normal act of human nature. We are all programmed to get physically close to other human beings and reproduce — no denying that. What complicates the perception of sex are the many hats we force it to wear. It's a physical urge without a rational explanation, marking us as no better than animals — thus it wears the hat of the taboo and debauchery. We've tried to elevate it by turning it into an expression of love — thus it wears the hat of meeting emotional needs instead of just physical ones.

I think problems arise when we're faced with the disparity between what sex is and what hat we've made it wear, and my life has become remarkably less complicated since I started reminding myself that sex by itself has no meaning but what I give it, and it's the context that helps me make meaning. Being wary of and honest with myself and my partner about the context has made sex much more empowering and enjoyable for me, and I hope your own path to understanding sex, dear reader, is helping you achieve the same thing.

Lea Calderon-Guthe '11.5 is a local news editor from Chapel Hill, N.C.

Student explores e-dating scene

By Rachael Jennings
FEATURES EDITOR

We have all seen the commercials: a couple framed in black and white and walking down the street in the rain, a smiling pair jogging through the suburbs, a slightly awkward but endearing dinner date. Online dating: is it as magical and effective as our television screens make it out to be?

Jean Lin '10 is the College's resident expert, or at least experimenter, with the online dating world. Over winter vacation, while channel-surfing with her sister, Lin noticed many online dating sites advertising New Year's promotions for open communication and decided to test the waters (or possibly, the waves).

Lin did not decide to venture into online dating because she was personally upset with the Middlebury dating scene. In that department, she has been able to call one person a girlfriend, and has moved from friendship to chemistry with a few people.

Inspired by "curiosity and insane boredom," she set up accounts for free with <http://www.okcupid.com>, <http://www.match.com> and <http://www.eharmony.com>.

These three sites were very different in format, user type and tactics.

"Each has its own merits. It's not necessarily that one is better than another," said Lin. "It's like apples and oranges — just different."

OkCupid allows a visitor to select what they are looking for, whether it be new friends, short- or long-term relationships or even "activity partners" (someone to hike with or meet up for tennis matches). The site also allows users to create the questions on the applications.

"You can select what matters to you," said Lin. "What do you think about gay marriage? You can select what your partner would ideally answer, and browse profiles that way."

Match.com, meanwhile, seems more activity-based than introspective: from Lin's perspective, it seeks to "match" you with someone whom you are compatible with on a day-to-day level, while down-playing personality and communicative traits. Account holders are able to rank identity-based phrases, such as "I am spiritual," while the profiles that appear to viewers are more superficial in terms of height, eye color and hair color.

The most thorough and seemingly accurate of the three is eHarmony, where users are forced through, in Lin's words, "an intense, crazy, really, really, long personality profile" designed to match you with a "highly compatible person" for the long-term.

eHarmony estimates that its matchmaking was responsible for about two percent of the marriages in America in 2007. Though no scientific evidence definitively supports such claims, that statistic at least suggests that eHarmony alone could be responsible for nearly 120 weddings a day.

Whether or not she has found her future life partner, Lin certainly had a whirlwind of a week leading up to her return to Middlebury.

While browsing profiles on OkCupid, a man named "Thomas" emerged under her "local matches." After reading through his About Me section on his profile, which listed a handful of random life experiences with no context such as "people from Afghanistan in Louisiana," Lin realized she was intrigued. Thomas' last sentence was, "You should send me a message if you made it to the bottom of my profile."

Lin sent a friendly response: "You said to send a message if I made it to the bottom of your profile! I think it'd be cool to hear some of your stories sometime. And don't worry, I am not a psycho or looking for attachment."

When she clicked on her own inbox, there was an immediate response. Confused, Lin read the quick message asking her to meet up for coffee or tea sometime, only to realize after a few exchanges that Thomas had sent his message without reading hers; he contacted her at almost the exact same moment that she ventured to contact him.

Already seeming coincidentally compatible, the pair decided to meet up at a Dunkin' Donuts in her hometown in New Hampshire, as he was heading down to see his family in Massachusetts.

"In my mind, this was all in the context of friendship," said Lin, "but as I was heading out the door, I felt nervous. We didn't know anything about each other! But I had made a few mental notes of things he had mentioned in his profile as conversation starters."

The conversation flowed smoothly, and about 45 minutes into hearing about his National Guard experience in Louisiana and his other elusive interests, he asked her if she would like to grab dinner.

"Classic 'don't' on an online first date: don't get in a car with him," laughed Lin. "What did I do? Got in the car."

In the hour-long snowy trek to The Skinny Pancake, they chatted freely, and the conversation continued naturally over dinner.

The next question: did Lin want to join him to watch a movie on Netflix?

"I have a certain level of trust, even with strangers," explained Lin, "and if I don't feel sketched out, I'm comfortable. I went to watch the movie, and needless to say, I have no idea what happened in it."

Still feeling comfortable, Lin realized that it was getting late, she had no cell service and her parents did not know where she was.

This was all in the context of friendship, but I felt nervous!

—Jean Lin

(She must have read my expression over the table at Proctor Dining Hall while recounting this story, because she interjected, "I know, I know, my friends were cringing when I told them.")

Luckily, Thomas drove her home safely and they made plans to see each other again.

"With the wrong person, things could have gone very badly, very quickly," Lin said.

After meeting up again for lunch and apple cider, Thomas offered to drive down to Middlebury to cook dinner for her at her suite.

"He would not let me help," she said, "All I did was grate some cheese."

The next day, Lin realized that her suitor was falling really fast for her.

"That was never my intention. He was deploying soon and I did not want to get attached," Lin said. She wanted to keep her distance emotionally, and she held back on communicating with him as he prepared to leave.

"But he left his cross-country skis in my suite," she said. "So I know he will have to come back eventually."

Meanwhile, Match.com brought Lin another interest: "Connor," a 31-year-old fitness trainer from Burlington.

"When he messaged me, I thought, 'Ugh, 31,'" said Lin. "But the title of his message was a quote from my profile. Clearly, he had read it and was not just sending messages at random to younger women."

On her profile, she had written, "If there's something there, any geographical difference can be bridged in time."

When she confronted him about the age issue, he wrote back an echo: "If there's something there, any age difference can be bridged in time."

Lin and Connor communicated from AIM to the phone to Skype, and on Friday, he traveled to Middlebury for dinner at Mr. Ups and a movie in town, with a long-stemmed pink rose — the flower she had mentioned loving in one of their conversations.

Because they had talked in detail before meeting face-to-face, Lin was not nervous this time, and she really enjoyed the date. However, it was their last.

"I don't know where I am going to be next year, or the year after that," said Lin. "I kind of didn't want it to work out. But people who try online dating need to keep in mind that there really is a chance that it will work out."

You might click."

While involvement with her high school sweetheart has ended Lin's online experience for the time being, Lin realized that she was truly out looking for another version of the boy she never stopped loving — she found many merits in her test-run.

"I find it difficult to be with someone on campus — everyone is so involved," said Lin. "With Thomas and Connor, they dropped me off at Adirondack Circle, and I was back in my own place. It is not like a 'study break' that turns into a three-hour cuddle fest."

Lin describes herself as an advocate for "dating," and why not incorporate online dating into that? She feels that Middlebury College needs a "dating revolution," and working at the Health and Wellness Center has helped her reach out and try to effect positive change.

"Some colleges have a date week, where it is fair game to ask anyone out," said Lin. "It is sad that you would have to designate a week just for that. We should not be surprised or shocked to be asked on a date."

She cited something she learned in her "Social Identity and Higher Education" class: an individual adopts the mentality that everyone is thinking one thing, when actually, they are thinking the same thing as the individual.

"If you see everyone hooking up drunkenly, you think that is what everyone wants," said Lin. "You fall under the same impression, when in a lot of cases people want a relationship, just like you."

Though she accepts that there is a stigma attached to online dating — people imagine middle-aged men behind the screens of online dating sites — Lin saw many profiles of interesting young people

who just happened to be very busy or live in small towns. She views this stigma as one that will change; some people just are not interested in the bar scene or forging a relationship from a random encounter in a club.

From Lin's perspective, people just need to change their attitudes about dating in general, and get over the fear of rejection. As for the flaws with Middlebury's dating scene? She thinks it is fixable.

"At the 'I Love Female Orgasm' talk, people were turned away at the door," Lin explained. "People are interested in sex and dating. Just do it! Ask your Proctor crush out, or someone in the library. What's the harm in asking someone to 51 Main?"

Whether or not you choose to date online or to take Lin's advice and strike up the courage for a walk down to 51 Main, reassessing and experimenting with the dating scene can give a new perspective. Maybe (preferably with cell reception and without a snow storm) a spontaneous date could bring you a long-stemmed rose and some apple cider. Even if it does not bring a true love, it could bring a few stories to tell over lunch, and perhaps some new angles on what you really want to find.



Saila Huusko, Photo Editor
Jean Lin '10 smiles with satisfaction after testing out the online dating scene.

Activist advocates for racial awareness

The Rev. Sinkford inspires at MLK Jr. Day celebration

By Sarah Harris
STAFF WRITER

Mead Chapel was sparsely populated at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 18. The meager audience, however, was treated to a striking address by the Reverend William G. Sinkford. Sinkford, the keynote speaker for this week's Martin Luther King, Jr. Day celebration, was the seventh president — and first African American leader — of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations. In 1968, he graduated cum laude from Harvard University and went on to earn his M.Div. from the Starr King School for the Ministry in 1995. In 2001, Sinkford was awarded an honorary doctorate from Tufts University.

Sinkford's oration proved the furthest thing from fire and brimstone — his tone was gentle, his voice rhythmic. And his words were powerful, underscoring the continued need for improved race relations in American society.

Sinkford began the address with an invocation to think and pray for those presently suffering in Haiti. He then quoted Dr. King's little known and presently out-of-print text, "Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community." We must, explained Sinkford, take a closer look at America's changing face in order to redefine the American ideal and retell a fuller, more complex national history. America, he pointed out, will soon no longer be a predominately white, Christian nation. Nor has it ever been truly homogenous — since the nation's founding, there have been enormously varied lived experiences of race, ethnicity, religion and sexual orientation. In an age of unprecedented diversity, we must re-imagine the typical American to encompass our country's sheer variety of people. We must also part with the image of a white, straight, Christian America — a challenge, noted Sinkford, that many white Americans find threatening. And we must further work to rid ourselves of "a selective historical memory" that enables us to "claim our triumphs" and ignore a history riddled with racism, prejudice and unjust treatment of minority groups.

Reginald L. Cook Professor of American Literature and Chair of English and American Literature Brett Millier commented on the difficulty and importance of Sinkford's task. "The Reverend Sinkford has lived the story he's telling — he greatly changed the Unitarian Universalist Association in the direction of outreach and diversity," she said. "It's impos-

sible to listen to him and not know how hard this is."

Daniel Watson Jones, '09.5, agreed. "It was a really poignant discussion of realistic race problems," he said. "He didn't talk around them; he was really candid."

Sinkford is undeniably witty, with well-placed word play alluding to race and ethnicity punctuating his speech — America has a "changing complexion"; race, in Obama's America, is possessed of "interesting shadings." Perhaps his puns are indicative of one of his points: that we are in need of new language to describe America's ever-expanding racial and cultural diversity. According to Sinkford, diversity's present lingua franca is insufficient: the phrase 'melting pot' belies a scenario in which new Americans are made to learn English and assimilate into the dominant culture, often at the expense of their original traditions and identities. It's a "metaphor with real power," Sinkford noted, that showcases "the homogenization of the American ideal."

While Sinkford is a self-described religious scholar, purportedly interested in the spiritual aspects of race-relations, he ventured unabashedly into the political. He brazenly decried the Republican attempt to brand Senator Harry Reid as racist as (and here, another witticism) "the pot calling the kettle black."

Sinkford's intelligent writing and calm, powerful tone held the audience captive for the better part of an hour. The address really struck home, however, during the question-and-answer session, when Dane Verret '12 inquired as to what sorts of skills are needed to inspire diversity and how we might acquire at skills at Middlebury. Sinkford, ever polite, noted that while he knows little about Middlebury's attitudes toward race, he imagines it faces similar challenges as other predominately white institutions seeking diversity. These institutions, Sinkford noted, need to make sure students of color feel at home. The challenges are manifold — "How will students find a mentor? What about those students for whom this is an uncomfortable place?" — but the need for diversity is pressing. After all, pointed out Sinkford, the only way to assume leadership in a multicultural world is to have a multicultural education. Institutional intention to bring diversity, he notes, is paramount.

His message to Middlebury was perhaps best summed up by Dilanthi Ranaweera '09.5. "I particularly liked how he answered the last question," she said. "You can't just talk about diversity without having an environment that welcomes diversity. Middlebury has come a long way in making that environment but there's a lot to be done."



In addition to Sinkford's keynote address, MLK Day celebrations at the College included the 12th annual celebration of the American Negro Spiritual, featuring festive singing and dancing.

Center of the Circle



Growing up, my family and I would go to a production of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" every year. And every year I wondered what it would be like to be haunted by ghosts of Christmas past, present and future. Of course, I was never overly concerned. After all, I certainly had more Christmas spirit than Ebenezer Scrooge, and every Christmas was pretty much the same, so I needed no reminder of how things had changed.

However, this year, I regret to inform you, was different. We attended no festive play, and I was the one who was haunted, but this time, by the three ghosts of boy-friends past. No, I was not trying to act out my own version of the corny Matthew McConaughey movie "Ghosts of Girl-friends Past" that flopped this time last year. Rather, I was legitimately revisited.

Always a believer in a "clean break," you can imagine my surprise when I received a request for a "re-friendship" on Facebook from my high school boyfriend of two years. I was even more surprised that our lack of communication for the better part of three years did not so much as warrant a note. No attempt at a false "how have you been?" sentiment. Simply a request to stalk my photos. Classy.

Shortly thereafter, I was "Facebook chatted" by a fling from four years ago. Again, we have never made an attempt to keep in touch before. Why now? What has changed?

Finally, the ghost I fear the most, the one whose haunting I have tried to avoid at all costs — my British boyfriend from a semester abroad — found my e-mail address, probably on the Middlebury Website, and requested a chance "to apologize and to explain." Really?! We lived together for two months, and you broke up with me via text message! Now, a year later, you choose to clear your conscience? The verdict is still out on whether or not I should indulge him.

All of this attempted reconnection got me thinking, and not just about how the Internet ruins personal relationships. Post-graduation, how will I relate to my Middlebury relations? Be them romantic or platonic, close or casual, will they choose to disappear and then electronically come back to haunt me? Who will I still be calling, texting, Facebook messaging a year or four years from now? What is the best way to keep in touch, and with whom do I value continued contact?

With one semester left and graduation fast approaching, I know a few things for sure: I vow never to burn any bridges via text message and never to re-build bridges via Facebook. I vow always to call and never e-mail when a conversation is in order. I vow not to lose touch with those I care about and to sufficiently fake friendliness when I run into someone I was not expecting to see. I vow to let the past be the past and to refrain from re-hashing. Most importantly, though, in the future, I will just go and see the play and stay off of Facebook and e-mail during the month of December.

H. Kay Merriman '10 is a features editor from Canton, Ohio.

winners



&



losers

Patriotism

Oh say, did you see that performance of our national anthem in Proctor dining hall on Saturday?

Two Bros. Tavern

Finally a celebrity comes to your bar.

Conan O'Brien

Surge in the ratings is giving Conan's hair-flip even more zing.

Public Safety

One would assume they have more important things to do than police the dining hall.

Audrina Patridge

Really, this is the best you could do?

Jay Leno

With his plunge in the ratings and tarnished reputation, his grey streak has widened a bit.



The Middlebury Campus
seeks a distribution manager (paid position).

Inquire within: zkarst@middlebury.edu

Female orgasm team 'peaks' student interest

By Michelle Smoler
STAFF WRITER

"Let's Talk About Sex Month" began with a bang, so to speak, on Jan. 12, as students piled into Dana Auditorium to witness the witty, alternative and ever-informative Marshall Miller and Dorian Solot present "I Love Female Orgasm." Proponents of practicality, positivity and pleasure, the duo's reputation clearly preceded them as a large crowd was turned away for lack of seats, and an even larger crowd waited to learn of the mysterious and often elusive Big O. "It's great to teach about something that most of us missed out on," said Miller. And as he and Solot took the stage, they were faced with a captive class of both men and women, the curious and the clueless, all unsure as to what they were about to experience.

"I expect they're going to cover a lot of uncomfortable topics and some people will be comfortable and some won't," said Kara Walker '13. "I did hear that it was very funny."

Jeff Dobronyi '13, who snagged a front-row seat, said he thought the lecture would be funny and interesting. "And useful," he added with a grin.

Miller and Solot did not disappoint. "Let's hear it for female orgasm!" they began boisterously. And the audience surely got an earful. From fake orgasms to real orgasms, from porn to a complete overview of the female anatomy, the dynamic couple reached from professional and personal experience to give Middlebury students a thorough pillow-talking to. All this because, the audience was assured, sex and masturbation are totally okay.

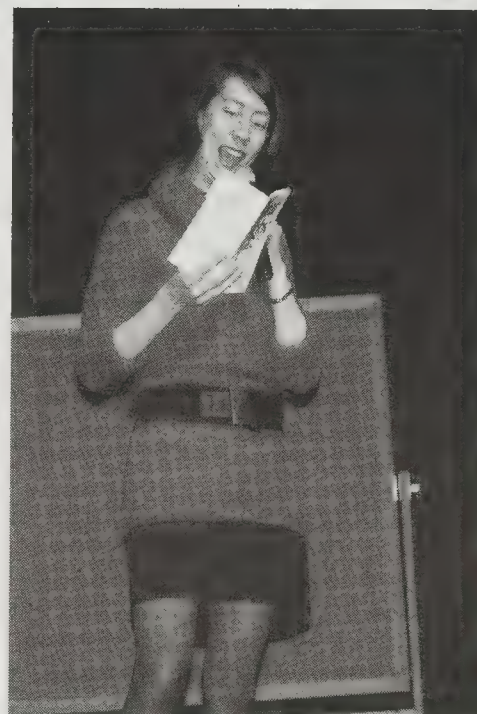
The main mission of the night, complete with innuendos and absolute honesty, was to provide good, accurate information on women's bodies and sexuality, because, "without it, how will we have the confidence to say no to sex we're not interested in? Or the skill to negotiate for safe sex with a partner that's giving us a hard time?" asked Solot in a rare serious moment. She also discussed the rampant misconceptions passed along during childhood in addition to what she sees as society's failures in sex education. Both laughter and incredulity permeated the room as students realized that, unbeknownst to the real facts, they had, in high school health class, fully internalized the textbook diagram of a woman's fallopian tubes; Miller assured them that in the grand

scheme of sexuality this anatomical map is probably an unnecessary scrap of knowledge.

"It really hit home for me how they teach high school sex ed when I saw my friends taking drivers ed," said Miller slyly. "You know where I'm going with this. We're going to teach drivers ed like we teach sex ed in most high schools. You come to a classroom, and the teacher would say, welcome to drivers' ed. You need to know that driving is very, very dangerous. You could die. So don't drive. Until you're married, at least?"

Most importantly, what Miller and Solot had to offer was a positive spin on an age-old taboo subject. Tips such as "befriend your vulva," "don't give up," and the great secret of "the Kegel," though unconventional, were a welcome change for many. "I'm just really grateful that this is getting talked about," said Kate DiPasquale '10. "We're at a turning point in our culture where it's high time for women to start feeling comfortable with themselves."

When the duo finally signed off, "Wishing you good health, long life, and plenty of orgasms," most audience members agreed that their presentation of "I Love Female Orgasm" really hit the spot.



File photo/Laurice Fox
Marshall Miller and Dorian Solot helped kick off "Let's Talk About Sex Month."

'Date doctor' encourages student relationships

By Vedika Khanna
STAFF WRITER

In his 15 years as the U.S.' own Dating Doctor, David Coleman has spoken to over two million people about love and has memorized over 11,000 pickup lines. Last Friday, Jan. 15, he came to McCullough Student Center and gave his advice to some Midd kids.

Coleman's philosophy on dating is simple: "You aren't going to find the right person until you become the right person." So, to all you lonesome single people out there, if you're not dating, "it's your own damn fault." If you're unhappy with the person you are, then that's going to be reflected in your body language and turn people away from you before you get the chance to say yes or no.

It's up to you to take the first steps to getting into the dating scene — simply being single isn't enough.

"It's a self-fulfilling prophesy," Coleman explained. "You end up living your life trying to prove to yourself that you aren't successful."

Katie Anderson '13 gained newfound perspective from the lecture. "Coleman's talk was really inspiring," she said. "He changed the way I look at dating."

Another reason people find themselves single is that they do not take initiative when they find someone who has potential. According to Coleman, everyone has 'hmm's'

— "people who stop you dead in your tracks and might not even notice you checking them out, but inside your head, you're looking at them and going 'hmm.'" Most people in the audience admitted to never speaking to their hms and letting them slip away. In response to that, he said, "Be a fat penguin, because fat penguins break the ice."

Coleman has worked individually with people to help them sort out their dating issues. In general, he deals with three types of people: those who are too cocky for their own good, those who are too shy and those who have been left cynical after too many failed relationships. During and after the show, he offered dating advice to anyone who asked for help. Kelsey Allan '12, who attended the same show at Middlebury last year, said she was back because she had received some really great personal advice from Coleman before. Rafael Kennedy '13 also valued Coleman's visit. "I've got a great girlfriend now, but if I ever break up with her (and I hope I never do), I'll definitely use Coleman's advice."

Most often, Coleman ends up giving advice to women who chase men who are emotionally unavailable — the "bad boys." He explained that "women like bad boys because they are strong — minded and stubborn. They don't like the weak-minded men they

can push over."

Before coming on stage, Coleman already knew a lot about the dating scene at Middlebury. "There are three types of people here: people who are in a long-term relationship; people who are just hooking up and

people who are floundering in the middle," he stated matter-of-factly. His advice? "Take advantage of the fact that you're on a campus, surrounded by people who are around the same age and have the same goals. You've got to have the guts to ask someone out."



Saila Huusko, Photo Editor
Dr. David Coleman, known as 'the Dating Doctor' encouraged students to enter the dating scene at McCullough last week.

FORTH 'N GOAL

The Middlebury Shop

68 Main Street Downtown Middlebury - (802) 388-344

CUSTOM CLOTHING

Your Design or Ours

Printing and Embroidery

Tees, Hats, Sweats, Jackets, Uniforms

Teams | Fundraisers | Commons | Intramurals | Clubs | Special Events

Textbooks bought and sold, new & used, online buybacks.

Buy, sell, rent at:

cheapbooks.com

(260) 399-6111

espanol: (212) 380-1763

urdu/hindi/punjabi:

(713) 429-4981

See site for other support lines.

Love in the Time of Decadence

J-Term musical opens

ARTICLE BY AMANDA PERTIERRA



Boy meets girl, boy goes out with girl, boy moves in with girl, boy gets tired of girl, so girl throws boy a party. She is functioning under a few assumptions: the party will be a smashing success, hook-ups will abound, boy will get jealous, and passion will descend on their relationship once again.

This is the world according to Queenie, played by Casey Panagua '10, and this Winter Term musical features her party — "The Wild Party," playing at the Town Hall Theater Jan. 22-23 at 8 p.m.

Roaring and rollicking, the musical, which debuted off Broadway in 2000, is a contemporary take on the lives of the artistic set of 1920s

It's all about decadence and flaming youth.

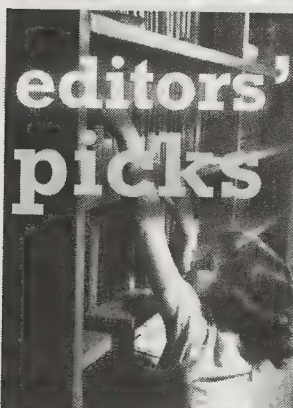
— Hannah Rommer

New York.

"The entire play is centered around a crazy party in 1929 and takes place in one night," associate costuming director Hannah Rommer explained. "It's all about decadence and flaming youth. The end of the show perhaps hints at how hollow that all is. It's very colorful, there's lots of energy, and as the party goes on it gets wilder and wilder, people show more skin, it gets sketchier."

The musical highlights Queenie, her boyfriend and vaudeville clown extraordinaire Burrs (Schuyler Beeman '10), her friend Kate (Michaela Lieberman '10.5) and Kate's boyfriend Black (Max Kanter '10.5), a relative innocent who won Kate over when, according to one song, he

SEE "THE WILD PARTY," PAGE 18



editors' picks

22 Performance by the Dance Company of Middlebury MCFA 8 p.m.

Student dancers will give Middlebury audiences a preview of choreography set to show in Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic later this month. The evening should feature the multicultural elegance for which the company has become known.

22 "The Wild Party" Town Hall Theater 8 p.m., also Jan. 23, 25-26

Andrew Lipa sets this jazz age musical in 1920s New York City. Amid rollicking and raunchy parties, vaudeville performers showcase their tumultuous and tense romances. Douglas Anderson directs and Schuyler Beeman '10 choreographs.

22 Brad Corrigan '96: Live in Concert McCullough Social Space 9:00 p.m.

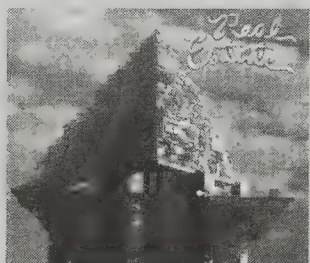
Former Dispatch member Brad Corrigan returns to his roots to deliver a concert that should give fans of the now disbanded group a treat. Corrigan will combine a variety of musical tastes with poignant and funny stories.

23 Middlebury College Orchestra MCFA 8:00 p.m.

New conductor Andrew Massey will lead the Orchestra in Beethoven's "Symphony No. 3 in E Flat," also known as "The Eroica," in what will be his first concert since arriving at the College. For the first time, tickets will be free.

FOR THE
record

by Dickie Redmond
Artist | Real Estate
Album | "Real Estate"



MTV's newest hit show "Jersey Shore" threatens to ravage memories of a place that defined my childhood summers. (I promise you, the "shore" is more special than "The Situation" may make you believe.) Thankfully, though, Real Estate's self-titled release has restored some of the Jersey Shore's dignity, as it explores — in psychedelic style — a place that has shaped the lives of many New Jersey locals.

Still, Real Estate touches on themes that almost any person who has spent time at the beach can relate to. Consider some of the track titles: "Beach Comber," "Snow Days," "Pool Swimmers" and "Suburban Dogs," to name a few. And the overall sound of the album reflects this ever-present beach-y theme. The vocals are almost dripping wet in reverb; repetitive melodies and looping guitars imitate the general laziness that consumes our early summers; and most of the songs — which seem to spontaneously emerge from a late afternoon jam session — remind me of the necessary creativity during a time where you have, literally, nothing to do.

The album opens with "Beach Comber," an upbeat pop tune that tells the story of, surprise, a "beach comber" — a man with a metal detector searching for buried belongings. However, the song is not as depressing as the thought of this futile activity may seem. In fact, the song seems to revel in a child's thought process, which sees the beach comber as a treasure seeker — a pirate who happens to be looking for a more realistic reward. The triumphant guitar solo at the end recreates the excitement of a "find."

Similarly, "Snow Days" returns to "thinking about the old days." The song, which opens with impressive acoustic picking, longs for days passed with no responsibility. The chorus is a heartfelt croon. At the end of the song, however, the melody picks up, leading to a triumphant finish. This is, of course, the way things go: at first we long for what has passed, but then realize the positive power of memory.

Other songs, like the short instrumental "Atlantic City," are just fun to dance to. The song reminds me of local town's teen ball from a different time, where people had just a bit more class than the "The Situation." And even others, like "Pool Swimmers" and "Let's Rock the Beach," capture the haziness and laziness of summer. The bass in "Pool Swimmers" is as slick and fluid as water.

At times, however, this lazy, jammy guitar noodling becomes excessive. I like that the album is as free-form as Jack Kerouac's writing, but sometimes this technique is exhausting. Overall, though, I am pleased with Real Estate's debut album because it successfully describes a time and a place with which that I am familiar. Unfortunately, it is winter in Vermont and it will be some time before I can listen to the album at the wonderful Jersey Shore.

Poet alum gives back to Middlebury

By Dana Walters
ARTS EDITOR

When poet Crystal Belle '04 walks into a classroom, she easily takes command, her effusive energy spilling out onto those who have come to soak up her wisdom. As she shares her love of poetry and hip-hop to an eager audience, the devotion and enthusiasm she holds for her craft becomes a palpable presence in the room.

On Jan. 14 and 15, Belle brought this unique aura to Middlebury, taking a hiatus from teaching English at Brooklyn Community Arts and Media High School in the Bedford-Stuyvesant neighborhood of Brooklyn in order to give the College a taste of her many talents. From conducting workshops on spoken word poetry and hip-hop as a teaching tool, to giving a lecture on urban education, to performing at Verbal Onslaught's Spoken Word Open Mic night at 51 Main at the Bridge, Belle barely rested during her return to her alma mater.

Belle finished her two-day extravaganza of events with a book-signing of her first col-



Vincent A. Jones

Crystal Belle performed at Verbal Onslaught's Open Mic Night on Friday, Jan. 15.

lection of poems, titled "Woman on Fire." The publication of the book last October was the culmination of a project that has been in the works for dozens of years.

"I feel like this book has been in my heart since I was at Middlebury," she explained. "It's called 'Woman on Fire' because it's the evolution of me. There are poems in here that I wrote my freshman year at Middlebury; there are poems in here I wrote my first year of teaching. So it's like all these different poems from different points in my life. It's kind of a celebration of what it means to be a woman and finding my voice."

That voice began forming as early as nine years old, when she began writing for a fourth grade project. "It started and it never stopped," she said of her poetry.

While inspired by spoken word poet Saul Williams and writer Toni Morrison, Belle also credits her students as notable muses. "Teaching, you will have a lot to write about," she said. "You literally see the have-nots. I see struggle every day in my classroom. I see what that looks like. I could never forget about that or become complacent."

In her teaching, Belle takes an innovative approach to connecting with her students. Giving credence to hip-hop as a poetic form, she will play a song by Ghostface and then read a verse by Wordsworth, trying to show students that both are sincere styles of art. In this way, students receive an education more inviting than the one that Belle received.

During her schooling, Belle found the focus on the canon off-putting, and now that she teaches, she wants to rectify that experience for others. In literature, she focuses on the questions, "Where do you find yourself?" and "Where do you see yourself?" Belle hopes her students will use hip-hop as a way into the canon.

"I felt like every single thing that I read, for four years, I couldn't find myself in it," she said.

'The Wild Party' sings about scandal

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

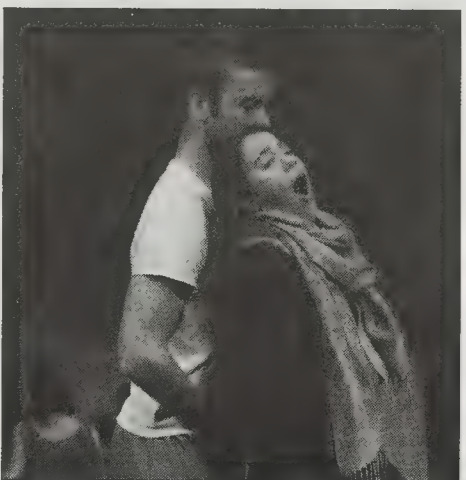
"held the door and nothing more."

Even so, the play is largely ensemble driven. Much is happening in the background, behind not-so-closed doors.

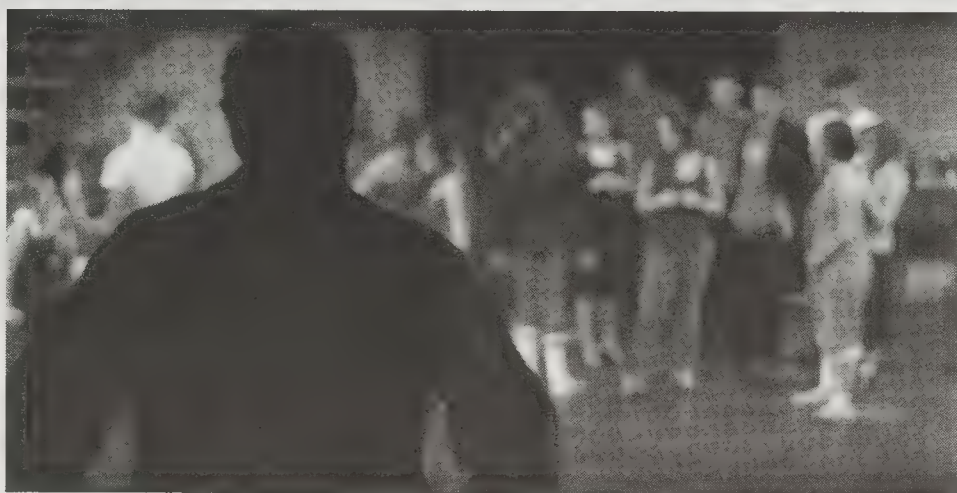
Cast member Emily Romero describes a favorite scene. "There's a fun little piece — essentially vignettes of everyone's characters interacting," she said. "I talk to Sam, a producer. My musician friends want me to convince him to listen to them. I play a hooker, so of course my convincing him involves me putting my hand on his [genitals]."

But far more than being a wild party, this musical is also a complicated one. Spoken word amounts to little more than 33 lines. Actors must exert enormous stamina, singing almost non-stop, and improvising through several jazz passages.

The musical challenge is especially appropriate for a Winter Term production, which is a joint venture between the music department at the College and The Town Hall Theater. The collaboration began in fall, when cast members met weekly to learn the notes, all the way until this month, when most students involved took the play as a class. The intensive 18-day rehearsal schedule has reduced the usual 12 weeks of prepa-



On Friday, members of the cast and crew will take the big stage after months of preparation.



Nicolas Sohl, Photo Editor

Director Douglas Anderson watches as cast members rehearse for the upcoming Winter Term musical "The Wild Party," set in Jazz Age New York City.

ration to a mere 3 weeks. Actors are on call eight hours a day.

In many ways, it's the ideal J-Term class," director Doug Anderson said. "Students may do many plays over their college careers, but they rarely get to focus so exclusively on one thing. Our schedule is very similar to professional companies and students are able to dig in deep."

The intensive environment also pro-



Nicolas Sohl, Photo Editor

"I loved it because it was literature and I loved literature, I loved reading, but I never really felt like I could connect to anything I was reading. So when I think of my students, I think of how I can give them literature, but help them find themselves too."

Belle never thought she would be a teacher. While in college, she had her sights set on a career in journalism, but experiences interning with ABC turned her off from the path. "The environment was all about news that didn't matter to me, or news that I didn't think was relevant," she said. "And I hated it. I hated the propaganda."

After college, Belle received support from a Watson Fellowship to travel around the world writing poetry and researching hip-hop as a form that "started seemingly in an urban community in New York" and has now "happened to transcend the world." The life-changing experience gave her even more material for her writing.

Today, Belle speaks with unquantifiable praise about both her poetry and her students. While her writing comes first — she is in the process of writing a novel — her teaching seems to light up her face just as much as when she speaks of her admiration for Tolstoy. While she admits that she never knows how the public will receive her work, she still never shies away from giving a performance. "Because I see the impact it has on people," she explained. "How writing can push people to think in that moment — to me, it's something that has to be done. Of course, before every performance, I have butterflies, but there's never a hesitation like, 'Should I do this?' It's, 'No, I have to do this.'"

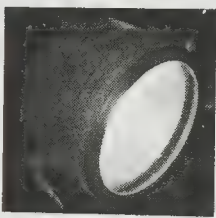
Belle's need to share her poetry means the rhymic cadence of her voice will never fall silent. Certainly the dozens of students and locals that packed into 51 Main on Jan. 15 to see Belle deliver her verses will be glad to hear that there is promise of rhymes to come.

vides a place to take chances. In addition to playing Queenie's boyfriend (a clown), Schuyler Beeman '10, was also able to take his love of dancing and immerse himself in choreographing all the musical's dance numbers.

"I choreographed a lot in my head over break, came back, and taught three dances in two days," he said. "I'd never choreographed before. I wanted to stick to the 1920s aspect, but a side people don't usually think of — the low life, sexier aspect, fused with the sharpness and precision of Fosse, and — to connect with a contemporary audience — Britney Spears."

Anderson believes audiences may be surprised by how strongly they relate to the play, which is based on an epic poem of the same title.

"In 1926, Joseph Moncuré March quit his *New Yorker* job," he explained. "He was frustrated by the decadence he saw. In 1928, he published his book. It was a scandal, banned in Boston, but really he was just writing what he knew. You don't have to work too hard to see parallels between the people of this play and people today. No party can last forever."



spotlightON...

Sam Robinson '11

Whether walking down dorm hallways or bopping your head to the RIDDIM finale, the Midd-kid Rap seems to be unavoidable. Sam Robinson, Writer and member of The Allen Jokers, sat down with *The Campus'* Tamara Hilmes and told the story of the viral hit's origins.

Middlebury Campus: Who first conceived of the Midd-Kid Rap, and when did you decide to make it happen? Who wrote the music? The lyrics? What came first?

Sam Robinson: I started it the first day of this fall semester. I think the first time I thought of doing anything like this, I was in regression class, on the first day, and there was a kid in front of me who was wearing flannel and six different carabiners and was really distracting and he was keeping himself hydrated. That's when I wrote the first part of it, but I was just messing around. I didn't write the chorus until later. Colin Meany wrote the second verse about the library and read it to me and I just thought it was funny and that got me motivated. So then we decided to have different verses about different types of Midd-kids. I wrote the first verse, then we needed to have something about Quidditch in there so with Phil's help, we wrote that verse. I knew I wanted to have a "lax bro" verse, but couldn't think of anything else, so I sent an e-mail to my brother who just graduated from Vanderbilt. He ended up sending me an e-mail that day from the office. That was kind of the whole thing.

MC: How many hours total were spent on production, if you had to guess?

SR: I don't even know. It changed a lot [...] there were a lot of different versions of it. The first one really wasn't that good — I hadn't put any time into the music. But then I got a new program and redid the whole thing. It literally took the whole semester. All those guys in the Chateau have heard it over and over again. I've heard it over and over again — it took awhile. I got Phil to rap on it, and Colin did his verse, and then a lot of people wanted a part of it.

MC: Where did you draw your inspiration from? What other artists are sampled aside from the obvious Jay-Z and the Lonely Island/T-Pain? I've heard a rumor that "I get inbox like Gmail" might be from Chiddy Bang. Was that an intentional shout-out since they are a similar group of college sophomores?

SR: My brother likes Chiddy Bang, but he said he wrote that line when he was on Gmail. But



THE ALLEN JOKERS

we just used Jay-Z's vocal tracks. You know, just his voice saying, "ladies and gentleman [...]" but none of his beats or music or anything. I actually talked to the copyright office and they said that it could all be copy-written in my name. I could mix a version without Jay-Z, but just like Girl Talk and all those guys copyright the way they cut up his voice [...] I could do that, too. My dad's a lawyer, so I called him and he told me what to do. It's an eight-month process, so I don't actually have the copyright yet.

MC: So how did this all happen? Were you hoping that it would spread the way it did?

SR: I remember I finished the song on a Tuesday night. I had no idea how to master tracks, so I was reading up on that and my brother was helping me. I went down to Palmer that night to show a bunch of my friends and we were really thinking about trying to film the video on a handheld camera. Michaela O'Connor '11 was down there and she's a film major, so she offered to help me out. We started getting e-mails all over the place from people who wanted to help film it. Shane Mandes '10, also a film major, and I had been looking at applications to get Middlebury equipment. Now this has sort of just become this project. Then it really took off [...] they talked to Nalgene to get permission to use Nalgene products. She had already heard the song. Said we could go on their Web site and get a bunch of things. The film company is even bringing in a quarter-of-a-million-dollar camera. I've just been talking to the director, and they've been trying to storyboard it and set up locations. Shane and Aaron and those guys have been good about going around the Commons and asking for funding, but I really haven't had to do that much this J-term.

It started as a such a joke, and that week

when I sent the song out to my friends [it kind of got] sent out all over the place. None of us had intended ... I mean, we wanted people to hear it. When I got an e-mail from this company saying they wanted to film a video I thought, "This is ridiculous." I've also heard from guys 15 years out [of Middlebury] — I was at a New Year's Party this year, and the CEO of some company said to tell me that it was funny and that he liked it.

MC: Have you heard it played at parties around campus? At the bunker? What's that like?

SR: It's pretty neat to go somewhere and see people that I don't know at all singing it [...] they know every word. And they do choreographed dances to it, which is funny.

MC: What's next for the Allen Jokers? Or is this your magnum opus?

SR: I don't even know. It's definitely hard to come out with a song. I think the first step is this video [...] it has a lot of potential to either be great or fizzle the song out. We're trying not to add anything really comedic to the song, because I feel like that could ruin it. Hopefully I'm just going to be amazed by the quality by it.

MC: How did you come up with the name "The Allen Jokers"?

SR: The whole name thing is kind of funny. It came up on iTunes and had artist, genre — all that stuff. Knew the name would be Midd-kid. But we don't have an album — that was a joke. The Allen Jokers was just a thing that we had said freshman year. All of us were just kind of jokers. It just kind of stuck, and once I sent that e-mail out, it was set in stone. There was no going back.

THE REEL CRITIC



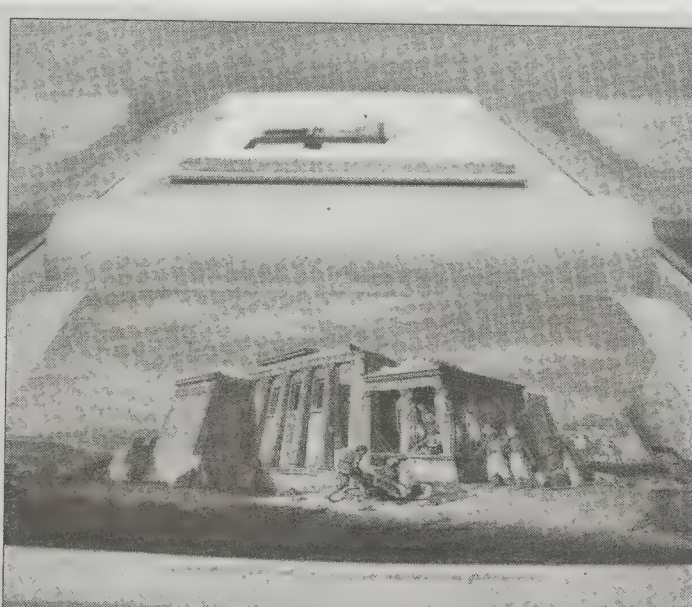
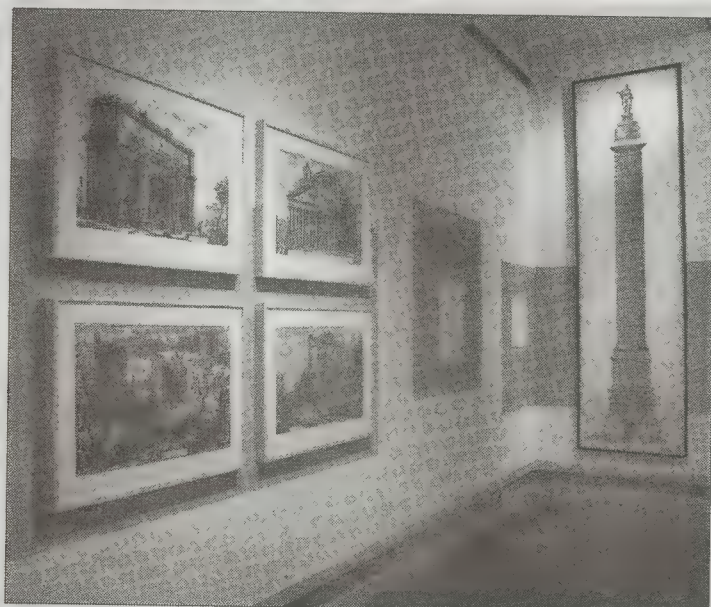
by Brad Becker-Parton

MOVIE | The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus
DIRECTOR | Terry Gilliam
STARRING | Heath Ledger

"The Imaginarium of Dr. Parnassus," the latest acid trip from director Terry Gilliam ("12 Monkeys," "Brazil," Monty Python) is an adventure into the writer/director's infamous fantasy bohemian aesthetic. The film opens late one night on a seedy street in London when the rickety horse drawn cart that later becomes "The Imaginarium" rolls to a stop. Quickly, the cart transforms into a stage and a few passersby on their nights out stop to watch the street performers' show. The performers, who look like they've just come from Moulin Rouge, entice the viewers to enter the mind of Dr. Parnassus, who sits stoically on stage with long grey hair and his face painted white. When one particularly rowdy guest goes through the mirror on stage into the mind of Dr. Parnassus, he is given the opportunity to live in his own imagination. In the world of his imagination, he is tempted to choose between good and evil because of a bet Dr. Parnassus made with the devil thousands of years before. Further along their journey, the band of outsiders finds Tony (Heath Ledger), an amnesiac who has grand ideas to make "The Imaginarium" more profitable. As they begin to perform for a higher-class clientele, the women who enter Dr. Parnassus' imagination see Tony as their ideal man, thus creatively allowing the film to recast the part after Ledger's death. The women leave "The Imaginarium" with a euphoric look on their faces, heightening the allure of the experience. This allows Tony to take advantage of the enterprise, only to reveal his corrupt motives.

It is difficult to summarize this overly complicated and often spotty story that doesn't come to a resolution; luckily, the success of this film doesn't come in the form of traditional storytelling. The performances in the film are strong throughout. Christopher Plummer plays Dr. Parnassus as a wise, aged man with the right amount of charm. Ledger, in his final role, commands the screen whenever he is on it, improvising most of his lines and creating a thoroughly compelling character. With Ledger only filming the London scenes before his death, Johnny Depp, Jude Law, and Colin Farrell take over the character in the fantasy sequences and finish the story with just as much believability as could be expected. Depp carries the character serviceably, Law loses the viewer's attention for 15 minutes, and Farrell takes the character to a new place, portraying the evil side of Tony effectively. Ultimately, in all of their performances, the lack of preparation and understanding of the character is clear. The acting gem of the piece comes from Tom Waits, portraying the tempting and conniving devil with a coolness and slyness that starts and ends with Waits' signature raspy voice.

As with all Gilliam films, it is directed and stylized with a very clear vision that makes the world of the film wholly aesthetically pleasing. This is the first film in 25 years that Gilliam storyboarded himself and it shows in the detail and precision of the shots. Some of the editing and cinematography choices seem sloppy, with shots going on a bit too long and frames getting overly crowded, making it difficult to focus on the important action at times. Gilliam is successful at creating two worlds and many compelling characters, sometimes at the expense of plot cohesion. Overall, though, the film's visuals are impressive and command much of the viewer's focus, making for a successful and enjoyable movie experience.



Andrew Ngeow, Photo Editor

GREECE VS. ROME VISUAL DEBATE TAKES THE STAGE IN THE MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE MUSEUM OF ART

Professor of History of Art and Architecture Pieter Broucke, with help from his fall 2009 first-year seminar class, designed and curated a conceptual exhibition based on the reception of antiquity during the Enlightenment. Based on the age-old debate on the appropriate "fountainhead" of Western civilization, the exhibition effectively narrates the debate with museum design and an impressive collection of prints by Piranesi, Stuart and Revett. A visual and intellectual treat, the exhibition was the topic of an illustrated lecture by Broucke on Jan. 14, and will continue to occupy a gallery in the museum until April 18.

The Middlebury Campus

**we spent the last 105
years preparing for
this one.**

Since 1905

www.middleburycampus.com

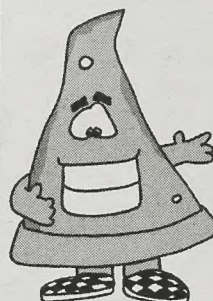
www.middleburycampus.com

www.middleburycampus.com

make it your homepage.



Sicilian Pizza & Jumbo Wings



You're invited...

to stop by and check out the finest slice case in Vermont, and pickup our new menu featuring 39 delicious chicken, vegetarian, and classic meat pies.

Open Daily for Carryout and In-Town Delivery

Carryout Service
Mon-Thurs: 11am-8 pm
Fri & Sat: 11am-9 pm
Sun: 3 pm-8 pm

In-Town Delivery
Daily from 5 pm-Closing
We suggest you call early
to reserve "prime times"

388-7755

21 MacIntyre Lane, Middlebury, Vermont
Located next to Middlebury Discount Beverage

PANTHER SCOREBOARD

Date	Sport	Vs.	Results	Comments
1/15 1/16	Women's hockey	Amherst	L 1-3 T 0-0 (OT)	Forty saves equally split between Bloom '11 and Wright '10 helped hold off an Amherst attack in the Panther's weekend doubleheader.
1/15 1/16	Women's basketball	Bates Tufts	W 66-53 L 56-62	Women split the first two games in the team's NESCAC opener.
1/16	Skiing	St. Lawrence Winter Carnival	Fourth place	Perennial powerhouse Dartmouth took first in the event but the Panthers put up a strong showing in the Men's Giant Slalom.
1/16	Women's swimming & diving	Hamilton	W 174-114	The women dominated the 400 medley, taking first and second, and dominated almost all the individual races.
9/26	Men's swimming & diving	Hamilton	W 156-137	Strong performance from the men in a contested match as individuals and younger swimmers contribute significantly.

BY THE NUMBERS

1.2	Average number of losses-per-match for the women's squash team at the Yale Round Robin.
1	Rank of Middlebury men's basketball in blocked shots per game among D-III schools.
7.1	Number of blocked shots per game for the basketball team.
11	Technical fouls Rasheed Wallace has recieved in the 2009-2010 season so far.
41	Technical fouls Rasheed Wallace received in the 2000-2001 season.

Editors' Picks



Questions	Alyssa O'Gallagher	Emma Gardner	Katie Siegner	Kevin Carpenter
Who will lead the women's basketball team in rebounds in their game against Conn. College?	STEPHANY SURRETTE '12 She's pretty tall, and the women's team seems all about youth these days.	STEPHANY SURRETTE '12 After her 18-point career-high game the other day against Tufts, I expect big things.	KAITLYN FALLON '10 She was my FYC last year and she's awesome!	STEPHANY SURRETTE '12 No offense, but this question is not fair. Stephany dominates the boards.
Will the Middlebury ski team earn more than 700 points in the St. Michael's Carnival?	YES I predict an improvement on last week's 685.	YES It's time we reclaimed our crown, and I have faith in my hometown hero, Leah McLaughry '10	YES I've seen the Nordic team at Bread Loaf, and they go really freakin' fast.	NO This is just based off of Katie's percentage. She is such a mush.
Which Panther goalie — Yancheck '12 or Kennedy '10 — will block more shots in the team's two games this weekend?	KENNEDY '10 An old dog proving he's got some new tricks.	KENNEDY '10 What a dreamboat!	KENNEDY '10 He has a sick save percentage and is undefeated. Hopefully my picking him won't jinx him!	YANCHEK '12 Saves, not save percentage, Katie. Do your research.
Will UCONN pull the upset against top-ranked Texas in Saturday's matchup?	NO The Huskies better pick a different (read: easier) game to pull themselves out of this funk.	NO The Huskies are riding on three straight losses — I call that a downward spiral, not a prelude to an upset.	NO As much as I like to cheer for the underdog, I have to start taking this Editors' Picks thing seriously.	NO I have been disgusted with UCONN lately. Walker and Robinson, pick it up.
Will the Saints cover the -4.5 spread against the Vikings?	YES These days, the Saints' play is truly saintly.	YES GO REGGIE!!!!!!	NO With the two-highest scoring teams in the league matching up, I foresee a close game.	YES After Bush and Brees dominated the Cards, I don't see why not.
Career Record	28-27 (.540)	56-73 (.434)	19-37 (.339)	31-32 (.492)

Rookie skiers stand out at St. Lawrence Carnival

By Paul Carroll
STAFF WRITER

The Panther ski teams opened their seasons this past weekend with a trip to the St. Lawrence Carnival, hosted by St. Lawrence College in Lake Placid, N.Y. Dartmouth took the cake but Middlebury placed fourth overall in a competitive carnival field, scoring 685 points. Starring for Middlebury was first-year Bryan Shpall '13 who took third place in the men's giant slalom (GS), an event that the men took second in overall.

Shpall recorded a time of 2:01.44 in this event and, along with his performance in the slalom (11th place), he managed to take top rookie honors among alpine skiers at the event.

Jonathan Hunter '10 (2:02.26) took ninth place in the GS and Andrew McNealus '13 (2:03.18) scored for the Panthers as well, taking 15th. The women's GS team was led by Lindsay Kraft '11, who took 11th place with a time of 2:08.08.

Nicole Dvorak '11 highlighted the slalom event for the women, turning in an impressive time of 1:53.38. Following close

behind for Middlebury was Tasha Woodworth '11, who took ninth place with a time of 1:58.51.

Along with Shpall's performance, three other Panthers placed in the top 10 for the slalom event. Jake Lund '11 led the group, coming in seventh place with a time of 1:38.40, followed by Hunter in eighth (1:38.61) and Bobby Poehling '11 in ninth (1:38.63). With all of the success of the men's alpine team, Lund believes the best is yet to come.

"Considering the potential we have on the men's side, I would say we had just an average weekend," he said. I think we will build off of our success at Whiteface and look for an even stronger finish this weekend at Smugglers' Notch."

On the Nordic side, the women took second place overall in the 5K classic led by Lauren Fritz '10, who came in ninth place with a time of 16:38. Keely Levins '13 also placed, taking 14th with a time of 16:47. Fellow rookie Corinne Prevot '13 finished the race in 21st place.

On Saturday, Fritz placed seventh in the

15K freestyle, with teammates Prevot and Levins finishing further behind, in 29th and 31st places, respectively.

A team plagued by injuries and illness, with few skiing at 100 percent, the women's Nordic squad had an impressive showing on the weekend.

On the men's side, Doug DeBold '12 placed sixth in the 10K classic race with a time of 28:36. Other notable finishers included Michael Mommsen '12 (12th, 29:15) and Patrick Johnson '11 (13th, 29:20), adding

points of their own to the Panther total.

Johnson finished first for the Panthers in the 20K freestyle on Saturday, placing 13th overall. Chase Marston '12 followed on Johnson's heels, finishing just behind him in 14th place, while Graham Egan '11 finished in 18th place.

Both the alpine and Nordic squads were able to assess their strengths and weaknesses as teams and are looking to improve upon last weekend's results at the St. Michael's Carnival this Saturday, Jan. 23.

At Yale, women's squash furthers win streak, men pull a mixed bag

By Jeb Burchenal
STAFF WRITER

The Panthers are really making a push this January. After a solid 2-2 weekend against some tough competition at the Yale Round Robin, the men improve to 8-3 on the year. But the women continue to be the talk of the town as they added another five games to their win streak. At 12-1 — undefeated in their last 12 — the women have proven they must be taken seriously.

For the men, the Yale Round Robin was a great proving ground as they make a bid for the B-flight. After a mild opening date with 22nd-ranked George Washington (6-3), the Panthers got a taste of where they want to be. Eleventh-ranked Franklin & Marshall, a stalwart in the B-flight, delivered an 8-1 beating. While Franklin & Marshall was clearly superior, the match was closer than it appeared. With its young talent base growing and maturing, the Panthers should be able to challenge the Diplomats in a matter of years.

On the heels of the loss to Franklin & Marshall, the team took another blow as it was stunned by 18th-ranked Bowdoin.

"The 6-3 loss to Bowdoin was definitely disappointing since we wanted to stay ahead of them in our bid to make the B-flight this year," said tri-captain Micah Wood '10, "but with [Brian] Cady '11 out with food poisoning, we had an uphill battle to win that match."

"With a few subtle changes, we could take down Bowdoin in the near future; hopefully at NESCACs." The men took care of Colby 8-1 in their final match of the tournament. A lot has gone into the success of this team.

"Team chemistry is excellent this year," said Wood, which can often be overlooked in individual sports like squash. This has been particularly key with all of the internal ladder

movement this year.

"People are really stepping up. Hopefully, we'll be able to peak at the right times. The right time is definitely this Friday against 15th-ranked St. Lawrence."

While the men played well in the face of adversity this weekend, the women have been playing well in the face of everything. During this 12-match team win streak, they have yielded a total of 10 individual matches. Everyone seems to have caught fire at the right time.

Five members of the top nine have yet to lose an individual match since the Williams loss: Molly Hubbard '13, Jamie Burchfield '12, Annie Ulrich '13, Lindsey Becker '13 and Al Boillot '12.

This talented youth presence bodes very well for the enduring success of the team. At Yale, the women beat 23rd-ranked George Washington, 21st-ranked Franklin & Marshall, 15th-ranked Bowdoin, 20th-ranked Colby and 28th-ranked Northeastern. While not teams the Panthers are trying to surpass in the rankings, these victories only reinforce this team's legitimacy.

While tri-captain and one seed Avery Tilney '10 struggled throughout the weekend — posting a 2-3 record — the team is built around depth.

"Our team has incredible depth that most other teams don't have," said tri-captain Virginia Shannon '11. "We can get wins consistently throughout our ladder which puts us in a good place for nationals and NESCACs when we come up against top teams." This depth is only bolstered by the team's chemistry.

"The support we all give one another is what helps each of us push through practices and tough matches," added tri-captain Ashley Panichelli '10.

Women's hockey loses and ties to longtime rival Amherst

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

Wright '10, both of whom blocked over 20 shots each. The game notched Wright's eighth career shutout.

"Saturday's game was the best team play we've had so far," said Anna McNally '11.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

Friday, January 15

Middlebury	1
Amherst	3

Saturday, January 16

Middlebury	0
Amherst	0

"We played a full 60 minutes, which is something we've been struggling with the past couple of games. We didn't come out with a win, but we made an important step to help us get back on track."

Added Wright, "the game Saturday was a huge step up from Friday. We played together as a team for the first time all season — it's going to be important for us to continue to play that way every game for the remainder of the season."

The Amherst-Middlebury women's

hockey rivalry has heated up in the past two seasons, with Amherst's rise to the top of the D-III rankings challenging Middlebury's role as the perennial NESCAC powerhouse. The 2008-2009 season proved particularly competitive — the Jeffs managed to defeat the Panthers at Kenyon in the NCAA semifinals, but only after Middlebury had taken the NESCAC championship crown while playing on Amherst's home rink two weeks before.

While the Panthers must now regain their dominance in the conference, the women hope to prove that they still have what it takes this weekend in their two games against Williams, away on Friday and at home Saturday.

"[Saturday's game] was by far the best team effort that we have put forth this season, and I'm confident that we will just keep building on Saturday's performance from here on out," said Bergman.

"We have the potential to be a really exceptional team," she continued. "Now that we've glimpsed that in ourselves, I think everyone is excited to see what more we can achieve."

Men's hockey leaves Connecticut with a 10-game unbeaten streak

By Ellen Halle
STAFF WRITER

The Middlebury men's hockey team continued their dominance this weekend, tying Trinity on Friday night and beating Wesleyan on the road. The men remain unbeaten in their last 10 games and move to 6-1-4 on the season. The team is optimistic about their play in the past few weeks.

"Although we would have preferred to come home with two wins this weekend, we made some good strides as a team," commented tri-captain Bryan Curran '11. "We are continuing to get better across the boards."

The Panthers traveled to Hartford after a successful return to NESCAC play the previous weekend, hoping to improve their league record. Ken Suchowski '11 started the game quickly for the Panthers, scoring less than four minutes into the first period to even the tally at 1-1. Neither team scored in the second period, but the Panthers came out strong in the third, as Chris Steele '13 scored his second goal of the season off of a Martin Drolet '12 assist.

The Bantams were able to fight back, however, eluding goalie Max Kennedy '10 twice in the final minutes of the period to force the game to overtime, in which neither team scored.

The following day, the Panthers found

themselves coming from behind after Wesleyan scored a quick goal in the first period. The comeback goals came not from a veteran player, but instead from first-year Chris Brown '13. Brown, who has only appeared in three of the team's 10 games this season, took advantage of a power-play situation to find the net late in the first period. He continued his prolific play in the third period, scoring on a rebound after the Wesleyan goalie deflected a shot by Tucker Donahoe '12. Middlebury hockey veteran and tri-captain John Sullivan '10 iced the game by scoring on an open net late in the third.

The weekend was marked by impressive performances by both experienced Panther hockey players and talented newcomers. Brown's showing in Saturday's game showed the depth of the Panther bench and the aptitude of the first-years on the team.

The team was anchored by a strong goaltending performance by Max Kennedy '10, who has had an impressive 2010 season and begun to see a lot of time between the pipes.

Curran echoed the team's appreciation for leadership in goal.

"[Kennedy] has been outstanding in net," said Curran. "We have really been able to rally behind his stellar performances."

Kennedy netted 21 saves against the Bantams on Friday night and 14 on Saturday, al-



Andrew Podrygala

Veteran forward John Sullivan '10 and teammates fight for the puck with opposing defenders.

lowing just three goals on the weekend.

The Panthers look strong moving into the final month of regular season play. The NESCAC title is still well within their grasp. They stand 4-0-4 in league play and their only loss on the season came in early tournament play to perennial powerhouse Plattsburgh.

"The league is still very much up for grabs so we hope to seize the opportunity at hand," Curran said.

Middlebury is ranked sixth nationally in the U.S. College Division III Hockey Online Poll, making them the highest ranked NESCAC team in the poll.

The Panthers will contest a doubleheader with Williams, which is ranked 15th in the nation, in league play next weekend. The Ephs, who are 5-3 in NESCAC play, will be tough competitors and a win will be important in determining league standings.

Panthers charge into NESCAC play with two wins at home

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

nine times, led by Edwards with three. Middlebury continued the weekend with an excellent performance against Tufts last Saturday. The Jumbos struggled against Middlebury's defensive pressure, shooting an abysmal 25.7 percent on the game, including just 2-for-17 from three-point range. The Panthers forced Tufts into 13 turnovers and clogged up passing and driv-

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Friday, January 13	
Middlebury	71
Bates	62
Saturday, January 16	
Middlebury	66
Tufts	53

ing lanes, suffocating ball movement and limiting the Jumbos to just seven assists. Ryan Wholey '11 scored eight of his 10 points during a 17-2 Middlebury run early in the game. Middlebury maintained a double-digit lead until Tufts came out strong after intermission, cutting the lead to five. However, Middlebury responded with another big 11-2 spurt, this time led

by Ryan Sharry's seven points. The Jumbos tried to recover a lead through long-distance shooting, but could not connect. Despite crushing the Panthers on the boards 57-40, Tufts could not execute effectively on offense and Middlebury pulled out a 66-53 victory. Sharry had a game-high 16 points to go along with a team-best nine rebounds and two blocked shots. Wolfen followed Friday's three-point shooting performance with three more triples against Tufts, scoring 15 points and dishing out a game-high six assists. Nolan Thompson '13 added 10 points for Middlebury, while Locke manned the paint and contributed six blocked shots. "I thought that we played great team defense in order to grind out those two wins," said Edwards. The Panthers continue NESCAC play next week at Connecticut College, and have two more away games before hosting Williams on Jan. 30. "We are off to a good start but still have a long way to go with big two big games on the road this weekend in Connecticut," said Edwards. "This is a growing process and we look to get better each week in an attempt to host the NESCAC championship again."



Guard Nolan Thompson '13 charges down the court, shaking a Jumbos' defender off his trail. Andrew Podrygula



Rookie point guard Leah Kepping '13 pulls up for a jump shot in the face of a defender. Andrew Podrygula

Women's basketball wins, loses in close contests

By Emma Hodge
STAFF WRITER

Middlebury women's basketball began NESCAC play with a 66-53 win over Bates in Pepin Gymnasium last Friday. The Panthers were solid and confident throughout; there was never a point at which anything but a win was expected. They ended the first half with a 31-25 lead and remained 6-8 points ahead for most of the second half. This was a great start to the Panthers' conference play, and it demonstrated that Middlebury is going to be a strong force in the NESCAC league this winter. Middlebury had a balanced scoring game against Bates. Brittany Perfetti '12 led Middlebury's attack with 15 points. Lauren Sanchez '11 scored 13 points, 11 of which came from an impressive record of 11 for 11 from the foul line. Sanchez was able to hit these foul shots at big moments

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Friday, January 15	
Middlebury	66
Bates	53
Saturday, January 16	
Middlebury	56
Tufts	62

throughout the game in order to maintain Middlebury's lead. Alana Wall '10 scored 14 points with seven boards, Stephany Surret '12 scored six points with nine rebounds, and senior captain Kaitlyn Fallon '10 earned 11 boards. Middlebury returned to Pepin on Saturday in a tough loss against Tufts. The final score of Middlebury's first NESCAC loss was 62-56 to the Jumbos. Tufts, ranked 11th in the nation, proved to be a strong and dominant team. The Jumbos took an early lead, which they maintained throughout the game. The first half ended with a score of 35-22, with Middlebury behind by 13 points. Tufts then reached a 16 point lead at the start of the second half. The Panthers, however, responded with determination. Middlebury kept chipping away, and made it a three point game with a score of 53-50 with 4:57 remaining. The game remained competitive, but Tufts maintained their lead until the end of the game despite challenges from the Panthers. Surette had an incredibly impressive game. She scored a career high of 18 points in the game, shooting eight of 11 from the floor with eight boards. Perfetti again scored 15 points in the contest. Fallon net-

ted eight points with five boards. Despite a tough loss to Tufts, Middlebury remained competitive throughout the entire game. After a win against Bates, the Panthers did not want to flatten out. They carried their energy and confidence over to Saturday, and despite the loss, played with strength. While Tufts may have talented individuals, the Panthers have great cohesion as a team that is only building. "As a team, we are strong," said Perfetti, describing her team's ability to work together. NESCAC play this weekend made it clear that rebounding is undoubtedly one of Middlebury's greatest strengths as a team. Middlebury players Wall, Surette, Fallon and Jesse Miller '13 create a powerhouse when it comes to rebounding. They proved this weekend to be relentless rebounders, on both the offensive and defensive ends. After this weekend, the Panthers led the NESCAC in total boards. This weekend also marked the debut of first-year Leah Kepping '13. As the starting point guard, Kepping plays a huge role on the team, and was a key contributor to Middlebury's two performances this weekend. "[She possesses] poise and elegance on the court, regardless of which direction the game is going," said teammate Perfetti. This standout player is described as bringing a "sense of confidence" to the team that her teammates admire and respect. The team's youth has been an asset to the squad, with rookies Kepping and Miller making contributions to overall scoring and rebounding. Returning sophomore forwards Elissa Goeke '12 and Surret '12 have been a dominating presence at the boards, while guard Perfetti '12 has made her presence known from outside the key, racking up points for the Panthers offensively. A team full of young talent with a cast of veteran leaders to guide them, this season is sure to put the squad on the road to success in future seasons. But for now, the team is focusing on the beginning of NESCAC play, looking not only to build on its 1-1 record thus far, but also to build a lasting reputation in the conference. Middlebury, now with a record of 8-6, will return to action against Hamilton this week. The Panthers will resume conference play away against Connecticut College and Wesleyan this weekend.

The Middlebury Great Eight				
Rank	Team	Carpenter's Comments	1/14	
1	Men's b-ball (14-1)	Andrew Locke '11 had so many blocks you can call him Lego. And yes, you can quote me on that.	1	
2	Women's squash (12-1)	Twelve straight wins for women's squash. I don't know anything about sports but that is good, right?	2	
3	Women's swim. & diving	Winning 400-yard medley team consists of all first-years. Take it easy, young'ns.	4	
4	Men's hockey (7-1-4)	Four points on the weekend. Six points would have been better, but hey, who's counting?	3	
5	Men's squash (8-3)	Men starting to get into the tough part of their schedule. Best of luck.	5	
6	Women's hockey (7-4-1)	Not a bad showing against the '09 champions.	7	
7	Women's b-ball (8-5)	Women dropped a very close game to 11th-ranked Tufts but not bemoaned because of Bates beatdown. Like the alliteration, Jeff Patterson?	6	
8	Men's swim. & diving	Swam circles around Hamilton, but the women swam figure eights around the Continentals.	—	

The men's basketball team tops the 'Great Eight' for a second week in a row. Women's squash came in a very close second after a dominating weekend.

Locke '11 blocks his way to weekend smackdown

By Will Silton
STAFF WRITER

Middlebury men's basketball opened up NESCAC play last weekend in typically dominant fashion, topping both Bates and Tufts in back-to-back home games this week to improve to 14-1 on the season.

The Panthers remain ranked in the top 10 in the country for Division III programs, but will face a much tougher schedule in the second half of the season. The team hopes to build upon its 2-0 start in NESCAC play in upcoming contests against league opponents.

"The start is a good one," noted co-captain Tim Edwards '09.5. "It feels good to come away from a NESCAC weekend with two wins," he said.



Andrew Podrygula
Tim Edwards '09.5 runs by a defender.

On Friday, the Panthers were led by Edwards, Andrew Locke '11 and Jake Wolfen '13 against Bates in Middlebury's NESCAC opener. Both teams struggled with shooting in the first half, with Middlebury building a seven-point lead mostly from the free throw line.

However, the Panthers found a rhythm after the break, shooting 66.7 percent for the second half. After Bates made an early 10-2 run to start the half, Middlebury countered with a 20-9 run to maintain an eight- to 10-point lead throughout, finally triumphing, 71-62.

Locke posted a career-high 25 points and nine rebounds in an unstoppable performance against the physically outmatched Bobcat front line.

Locke and fellow big men Jamal Davis '11 and Ryan Sharry '12 proved simply too long, tall and athletic against a shorter Bates team, whose tallest starter is listed at just 6'7".

Middlebury recorded 14 blocks on the game — including 7 by Locke, tying a career high — compared to just one by Bates. Davis, Sharry and Edwards each blocked two shots.

Edwards ran the offense smoothly for Middlebury, dishing out nine assists to go along with eight points. Wolfen drilled three three-pointers en route to 10 points.

Middlebury's defense once again set the tone for the game, as it held the Bobcats to 35.8 percent shooting on just 10 team assists. The Panthers also stole the ball



Andrew Podrygula
Forward Anna McNally's '11 shot is stopped by the Lord Jeffs' goalie in the Panthers' doubleheader with Amherst.

Women fight hard against '09 champions

By Emma Gardner
SPORTS EDITOR

Kenyon Arena saw two of the best women's hockey teams in Division III battling it out this past weekend as Amherst and Middlebury took to the ice to settle old scores in a doubleheader. Friday night's game culminated in a 3-1 loss for the Panthers, while both teams found they had to settle for a scoreless tie on Saturday.

Middlebury caught a 1-0 lead early in Friday night's game, after Maggie Woodward '13 knocked the puck past Amherst's Sinead Murphy on a power play five minutes into the game. Keen on revenge, the Jeffs stepped up their intensity as the players zigzagged across the ice and control of the game moved evenly between the

two teams. Though the remaining 17 minutes of the first period were relatively uneventful, Amherst sent two more of its players to the penalty box as the team launched a campaign of aggression on the Panthers. It was not until the fourth minute of the second period that Amherst's Stephanie Clegg netted a point for her team to tie up the score on a power play.

The game-winning goal came 10 minutes later, when Amherst's Josie Fisher dodged goaltender Lexi Bloom '11 and chipped the puck into the Middlebury net to put the score at 2-1. After laying an onslaught of shots on Bloom in the third period, the Jeffs managed to grab an insurance goal, putting Amherst on top for good as neither team found the back of the

net for the remainder of the game.

"We went into the first Amherst game following a rough couple of weeks of play, and while we came out hard in the first period, we didn't maintain our intensity and level of play through the second two periods," said Nora Bergman '11.

Saturday's game proved frustrating for both teams as the players were forced to leave the ice with no points on the scoreboard after 65 minutes of play. Rather than an indicator of failed offensive opportunities, however, the absence of points is a testament to the great defensive skills displayed by Amherst's Caroline Hu and Middlebury tri-captain Lani

SEE PANTHERS, PAGE 22

Swimming and diving strong in weekend meet vs. Hamilton

By Molly West
STAFF WRITER

The Middlebury swimming and diving teams defeated the Hamilton teams in the Middlebury Natatorium this past Saturday afternoon, Jan. 16. Hamilton has historically had fairly weak swimming and diving teams, so this meet proved to be more of a training day than a serious competition. It allowed for new people to provide some points for Middlebury, though, as many of the top swimmers were still too sick to compete.

As co-captain Katie Remington '10 pointed out, "we are just trying to hang in there for Winter Term." There are many more meets in the season, and the teams are hoping that everyone recovers and is in good enough health to compete in the upcoming meet against Union.

The men won the meet by a

fair margin, with the points finally tallying up to 156-137. The 400-yard medley relay team, consisting of John Dillon '11, Matt Vukich '11, Kazu Asaga '12 and Nick Daly '12, finished in 3:35.08, defeating the Hamilton team who swam a 3:45.26.

The men also took first and second in the 100-yard backstroke. Asaga came in first with a time of 54.99 and co-captain Schuyler Beman '10 was right behind him, finishing in 55.51. Dillon continues to dominate the butterfly, as he finished first in the 200-yard fly with a time of 1:56.36 and in the 100-yard fly with a time of 51.20. Dillon provided Middlebury with additional points by winning the 200-yard inter-medley in 1:59.21.

The women defeated Hamilton by an even larger margin than the men with a final score of 174-114.

Like the men's relay team, the Middlebury women's 400-yard medley relay team also came in first. The all-rookie team consisted of Nora Daly '13, Salena Casha '13, Jen Friedlander '13 and Audrey Tolbert '13. The young swimmers competed impressively, finishing with a time of 4:09.15. The second Middlebury medley team finished only seconds after the first and managed to place second in the event. This team consisted of Annie Friedlander '11, Jessie Ward '11, Katherine Loftus '12 and Katie Remington '10.

The women also took first and second place in the 1,000-yard freestyle. Co-captain Katie Soja '10 displayed her endurance and power, taking first with a time of 11:09.25. Sarah Demers '12 also proved her might as she steadily followed Soja, stealing second place with a time



Andrew Podrygula
Swimming and diving dominated the pool in their meet vs. Hamilton.

of 11:16.77. The women also took first and second in the 200-yard freestyle. Loftus and Tolbert easily took first and second place respectively, as they both left the Hamilton swimmers in their wakes.

The women did not stop dominating there, however. They also took first and second in the 100-yard backstroke. Friedlander placed first with a time of 1:04.65 and Kelsey Allan '12 came in second, finishing in 1:06.82.

This only scratches the surface of the wins the Middlebury swimming and diving teams compiled this weekend. The team's confidence is on the rise as it enters this week's training in anticipation of the upcoming meets.

Remington ended on an enthusiastic note, saying, "[We] are really looking for the end of the season; Union is going to be a big meet for us." Union comes to Middlebury on Jan. 23 at 2 p.m.

this week in sports

Men's hockey

The Panthers remain unbeaten in their last 10 games, winning and tying on the weekend, page 22.



games to watch

Men's and women's squash vs. St. Lawrence, Jan. 22
Swimming & diving vs. Union, Jan. 23



Women's basketball

The squad begins NESCAC play with close games: a win over Bates and loss to Tufts, page 23.